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THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUDES 4 PAGES OF BANGALORE TIMES

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

The long parliamentary innings of former PM H D Deve Gowda, spanning nearly five decades, **will come to an end on June 25** as the JD-S supremo has not been renominated by NDA for the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections, P 6

Five days after polls close in LA, Indian-American progressive Nithya Raman stages late surge to overtake Republican-backed celeb candidate Spencer Pratt, moves into second place in race for mayor of America's second-largest city, P 16

Award-winning Somali referee Omar Artan, who was set to be the first from his country to officiate at the World Cup finals, **has been denied entry to the US,** P 17

Manav Suthar returns a match haul of 7 wickets on debut as India hammer Afghanistan by an innings and 300 runs, their biggest victory in a Test, P 18

35 die as quake jolts Philippines

Thirty-five people died and more than 200 others were hurt as 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Philippines Monday, bringing down several buildings. It triggered a 1-metre tsunami in one village, while smaller waves were reported in Indonesia, Palau and Japan. P16

7 Indians killed in Dubai accident

Seven Indian workers were killed and nine others were injured in an accident in Dubai Monday. The accident happened a minibus collided with a truck that had stopped in the middle of the road, Dubai police said. IANS

Meta, Google alerts help nab 'rapists'

An alert from Google and Meta that flagged transfer of child porn videos led to arrest of Zahid in UP for raping minor sisters. The same alert system helped in the arrest of another man Monday for a teen's rape. P13

Ujjwala cylinders cut from 9 to 4 a yr

In a bid to contain rising subsidy costs amid higher global fuel prices, Centre has reduced the number of subsidised LPG cylinders available to beneficiaries of its flagship Ujjwala scheme to four per year from nine. AGENCIES

Ship catches fire, 24 Indians aboard safe

An unladen oil tanker with 24 Indian crew members caught fire near Oman Monday. They were evacuated. The ship, blacklisted by the US, was "disabled" while evading the US blockade. P13

Mamata & Abhishek in Delhi, TMC mutiny spreads to Parl

Rebel MPs Write To Speaker, Say They Back NDA

Dwaipayan Ghosh & Dipawali Mitra | TNN

(L-R) SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, TMC's Mamata Banerjee, and Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi of Congress at INDIA bloc meet in Delhi Monday

Kolkata/New Delhi: Trinamool Congress lurched towards its biggest rupture in 28 years Monday after rebel MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar claimed support of 20 MPs and wrote to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla seeking recognition as a separate parliamentary bloc that would back BJP-led NDA.

If the numbers hold, rebels would clear the two-thirds threshold needed to shield themselves from anti-defection, handing Mamata Banerjee's party its gravest challenge since its formation in 1998 and potentially opening a battle over TMC's name and symbol. "We won't join BJP. We will support NDA," said Ghosh Dastidar, a four-time MP. The letter "with 19 other MPs' signatures" was submitted around 1pm, marking a dramatic escalation in a rebellion that has simmered over days of phone calls, back-channel outreach and closed-door meetings. The Speaker's office has not officially acknowledged receiving the letter.

Fourteen rebel MPs later gathered at Union minister Bhupendra Yadav's Delhi house for lunch, where Bengal CM Suvendu Adhikari also met them. Adhikari again met rebel MPs in the evening at MP Satabdi Roy's residence.

▶Reshape numbers, P 9

INDIA bloc vows to meet every 2 months

At its strategy meet Monday, the INDIA bloc decided to meet every two months to enhance cohesion in its functioning to counter BJP. Its next meeting in Aug in Hyderabad will discuss an "organisational structure", it was decided at a brainstorming session attended by 23 parties. "Pressure" was the word used by several parties, citing defeat of RJD and TMC, and DMK walkout from the bloc. TNN

SC to CBSE: Burn midnight oil to fix problem by Friday

Refuses Leeway On Declaration Of Std 12 Result

New Delhi: Noting that a delay in declaring results may derail the process of admission of students in West Asian countries to colleges, Supreme Court Monday directed Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to take effective steps to announce Class 12 improvement examination results at the earliest, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary**.

The top court asked the board to present a plan for the purpose by Friday, regardless of the effort needed for the same.

A bench of Justices Manmohan and Vijay Bishnoi agreed to hear the plea of an overseas student from Saudi Arabia and issued notice to the board. The counsel appearing for board sought more time to respond to the petition, but the bench refused. "If needed, then burn the midnight oil but do it by Friday," it said.

▶Jeopardises, P 13

Students shift from CBSE to PU colleges

With CBSE mired in re-valuation controversies, several schools in Bengaluru are seeing cases of class XI students migrating to K'taka state board. Such is the anxiety that many have even foregone refund of fees while changing boards. Admissions have dropped, said a CBSE school principal. P 4

8 burn to death as molten steel spills after blast at Vizag plant

Visakhapatnam: At least eight workers died and several suffered severe burn injuries after an explosion triggered a massive spill of superheated liquid metal at Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd's Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in Andhra Pradesh on Monday, **reports Siva G**.

According to preliminary information, a ladle carrying liquid steel at temperature of around 1,600°C exploded in the continuous casting department of the plant's steel melting facility. The explosion caused tonnes of molten steel to pour across the shop floor, killing eight workers on the spot and igniting a massive blaze.

The toll is likely to rise as several workers suffered burns in what is said to be the worst accident at the steel plant in a decade.

▶Furnace bay, P 13

Great Nicobar airport likely to be 'ready in 5 yrs'

New Delhi: Considering the strategic and economic benefits of Great Nicobar Islands (GNI) development projects, the greenfield airport approved by Cabinet last Nov, "is expected to be ready within five years and will be under the operational control of Indian Navy," defence sources have said, **reports Surendra Singh.**

"The dual-use airport to be used for civilian and military purposes shall enhance India's maritime domain awareness and operational outreach," the sources said.

▶3 projects envisaged, P 8

Reddy takes charge. Now, KBG questions portfolio

Sandeep.Moudgal @timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Congress is now facing a second major hurdle on portfolios. Hours after Ramalinga Reddy climbed down on his demand for Bengaluru portfolio and took charge of irrigation dept on Monday, Krishna Byre Gowda has decided to not take charge of Bengaluru development dept due to "lack of clarity" over certain civic agencies.

The most-sought-after department is split vertically, with planning authorities staying with chief minister DK Shivakumar.

"Without the planning agencies under him, how can a Bengaluru development minister function," said a party functionary, explaining Byre Gowda's dilemma.

'LACK OF CLARITY'

- Byre Gowda **delays taking charge of B'luru development**, cites 'lack of clarity' over role
- **Can't function without planning authorities** under him, says a Congress member
- **Conflict over shared charge with CM.** A source says **CM's orders would eventually prevail**
- CM expected to speak to KBG

▶Rift reaches top brass, P 5

In kid's murder, med report hints at belly injury

A medical examination report in six-year-old P Vennela's death has now indicated internal stomach injuries. The girl's father, in his complaint to police, had raised the suspicion that his daughter was kicked in the stomach. The child died under mysterious circumstances on March 24. Police have booked mother Priyanka, who is untraceable, and her lover on murder charge. Priyanka reportedly left Vennela sleeping inside her MUV with the air conditioning on. Cops are examining the MUV with luminol testing for traces of blood. P5

Bescom's OC relief for bldgs ready before May 31

Niranjan.Kaggere @timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Ending days of uncertainty, Bescom has announced a major relief for homeowners on the occupancy certificate (OC) condition.

The power utility has decided that residential units measuring up to 2,400sqft in Greater Bengaluru Authority will no longer need an OC to obtain a permanent electricity connection irrespective of whether they had applied before May 31, 2026.

The move effectively broadens state govt's recent relaxation of OC norms and addresses widespread confusion triggered by a condition that appeared to limit the benefit only to those who had applied before May 31. The confusion began after Karnataka govt, acting on CM DK Shivakumar's announcement, exempted houses up to 2,400sqft from the OC requirement.

> All homeowners, who completed construction before May 31 or obtained temporary electricity connections before that date, will be considered for exemption. They need to furnish proof while applying for a permanent connection
> —A Bescom official

▶'Conditions unfair', P 5

SC: Premarital sex no reason to judge character

Citing changing times and the common prevalence of premarital sex, Supreme Court said a consensual physical relationship between unmarried adults can't be termed moral turpitude to draw adverse inferences about a person's character, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary**.

SC came to the rescue of an aspiring cop whose provisional selection was cancelled on the ground that he had been in a physical relationship with a girl and she later filed a complaint against him. The matter was later settled in Lok Adalat. P13

AT THIS MOMENT,
THE WORLD'S EVOLVING.
AND SO IS ENERGY.
In a future of limitless opportunity, energy is not just a resource. It is the very foundation of human possibility. Our energy choices today will define how far we go and how much we achieve in an energy-hungry future.
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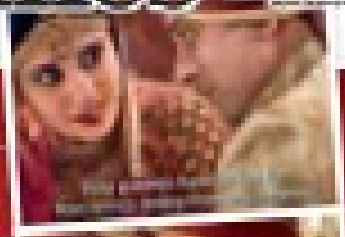
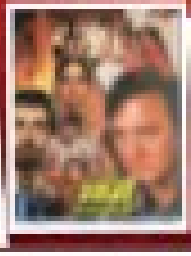
Bangalore Times

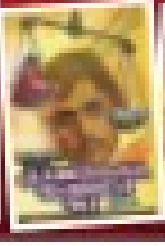
I'm proud to be a Kannadiga, but I feel more valued in other industries: Samyuktha

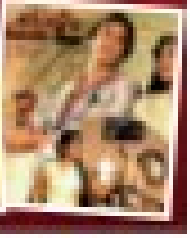
Showbiz rarely focuses on this subject anymore

NO RAGE OVER DAHEJ?









HEALTHY SHIFT OR SMART MARKETING?

Inside the boom in 'GLP-1-friendly' eating

VOICES

I have zero shot of the lowest dose of a synthetic GLP-1, and to say I had an adverse reaction would be somewhere on an understatement...

I can recognise the deep pain and embarrassment that comes from a body that betrays you... It has helped people in particular ways. But that I am certain... But nobody talks much about what happens when it goes wrong

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Students are working with Dharma Cornerstone Agency, DNA Entertainment Networks, BookMyShow, Saregama India, Messe Muenchen, Wizcraft International Entertainment, ABEC Exhibitions & Conferences, Jio World Convention Center, Seventy Seven Entertainment, George P Johnson,The Times Group, Quick TV Networks, Percept Live, Artist Root, Videas Event Production, Believe Experiences, Laqshya Media Group, Eva Live, Golden Chariot, Essence Transmedia, Create, The Bombay Lettering Company, Trip Navigator, MAMI Mumbai Film Festival, 70 Event Media Group,Team Rustic, Mercury Integrated marketing services, Iskra events, Event Soul, TCM Platform, Quantic Business Media Private Limited, SOL Brand Solutions, Lokmat Media & The Leela Mumbai, Cachet Events, Rising Events, Experience Box21,Tradition N Trendz, Informa Markets, Shobiz & Many more...

PRACTICAL TRAINING

On mega events like Coldplay-Music of the Spheres tour, Lollapalooza, BUDXNBA House, Guns n Roses Tour Sunburn Festival, Jio Mami, Comic Con, Tata Mumbai Marathon, Film Fare Awards, IIFA Awards, Wow Awards, A R Rahman : The Wonderment Tour, Youtube Fanfest, Cap Mania Tour Ft. Himesh Reshammiya, Bollywood Music Project, Nykaaland, Palm Tree Festival, Kala Ghoda Art Festival, FOAID, The King New Life India Tour, AJIO Luxe Wkend, Diljit Dosanjh Dil-Luminati Tour, Celebrity Weddings, The Iconic Sonu Nigam Live, Sunburn ft. Illenium, Indian Street Premier League, Ed Sheeran: +-=x India Tour, Lil Flea, Tata IPL, BMW Joytown, Shows of India Conclave, Creators United, Cruise Control 5.0, India Film Project, Thane Raas Rang, Sunburn Arena Ft. Alan Walker, Spotify Rap 91, Mumbai Literature Live, All Star Tennis Ball Cricket League (ASTCL), Maroon5 Concert, Yo Yo Honey Singh Millionaire India Tour & Many more...

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In the aftermath of Shilpa Shinde's token reconciliation scandal, an analysis and its withdrawal, two of our editors present perspectives examining the systemic failure in what can give rise to disputed allegations, and the fallout it can leave us to grapple complainants

Every wrong deserves the right remedy

POV

The damage doesn't end with an apology

W

N

JUNE 1

I WANTED TO COME CLEAN

Celebs flaunt glamour at French Open finals

EXCLUSIVE PICS

SPOTTED

LEISURE

BREAK THE SILENCE

An Open Letter to All CEOs

Breaking the Silence: It's Time to Support People Through Pregnancy Loss in the Workplace

A Personal Commitment from Ajit Prabhu, Co-Founder and CEO of Quest Global

More than 200 million women are part of India's workforce today. Yet one of the most common and difficult experiences they face – pregnancy loss – is still one of the least spoken about.

To understand the depth and impact of the issue, Quest Global commissioned a first-of-its-kind study in partnership with YouGov, called "The Cost of Silence". The data reflects something many women already know from experience. When pregnancy loss goes unacknowledged and unsupported in the workplace, the impact is real and measurable, for the individual and for the organization.

When people do not feel cared for during significant personal experiences, it shows up in how they engage, how long they stay, and what they are willing or able to contribute. The impact is felt by the organization.

- **80M** working women in India stay silent about pregnancy loss out of fear of judgment.
- **78M** fear job loss or negative career consequences if their pregnancy loss becomes known at work.
- **3 in 4** women report that pregnancy loss reduces their confidence, which in turn impacts performance while they remain silent.
- **70M** Indian women would consider leaving their jobs when their employers offer no support for pregnancy loss.

As a leader, colleague, and member of India's business community, I am deeply concerned about the cost of silence. At Quest Global, we've spent decades solving complex engineering challenges. But I've learned that some of the most profound human challenges aren't technical – they're emotional, cultural, and often invisible.

At Quest Global, we are, at our core, a people company. And that means the full human experience of our people matters to us. All of it. Including the experiences that are hardest to talk about.

So today, we're doing something about it and inviting you to join us.

From the moment of loss through the return to work, no woman at Quest Global will face this journey alone. In partnership with YourDOST, we have built a network of resources, guided recovery support, allyship education, and trained advocates so that when someone needs help, help is already there. And, we've taken it one step further by making these resources available to every person and every organization across India. At no cost.

Supporting women and families is not only the right thing to do; it is also good for business. **43%** of Indian working women, approximately 86 million, say they would feel greater loyalty to an employer who supported them through pregnancy loss. And that loyalty carries real business weight. Gallup research links engaged employees to 2.5x greater revenue growth, 23% higher profitability, and 18% greater productivity. When employers create space for openness, women respond with loyalty, advocacy, and sustained performance, with some reporting productivity levels nearly twice those who received no support at all.

To every woman: Your grief is recognized, your healing matters, and you are seen.

To fellow CEOs, business leaders, and changemakers: Let's build workplaces where everyone feels safe, supported, and empowered.

The cost of silence is measurable. So is the difference support makes. When we **break the silence**, we make that difference – together.

I personally invite you to learn more and to please join this movement, visit **www.breakthesilence.in**

Ajit Prabhu
Co-Founder and CEO, Quest Global

Quest global

Monaco Grand Prix: Inside F1's most luxurious weekend

The 82nd Monaco Grand Prix wasn't just a showcase of Formula One's most skilled drivers—it was also a magnet for celebrities and royalties from around the world

High protein, healthy: Why brands are betting on GLP-1-friendly foods

THEATRE REVIEWS

A couple's search for the truth through their memories

UP TO DATE | WHAT'S #TRENDING AND WHY

India wins South Asian Football Federation Women's Championship title after 7 yrs

CM Vijayan congratulates B Prasigaa and others with a game of chess at the Secretariat

CBSE fails trust test, students rush to join PU colleges

Sruthysusan.Ullas
@timesofindia.com

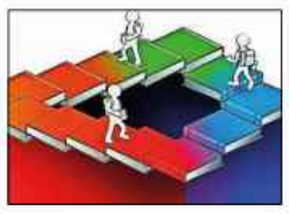
Bengaluru: With Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) engulfed by evaluation errors in the on-screen marking (OSM) system, class 11 students in Bengaluru are shifting from CBSE schools to PU colleges. Some students are not even waiting for a fee refund while changing boards.

With trust deficit deepening, students fear they might not get good scores in core subjects such as physics, chemistry, and maths during CBSE evaluation. When it comes to professional courses, authorities take an equal average of CET and II PU or CBSE scores.

Anecdotally, the number of students switching boards after the start of the academic year is visibly increasing. A teacher in charge of the senior secondary segment at a CBSE school in Bengaluru said five students decided to withdraw their admissions into class 11 because of the recent CBSE controversies. "Parents and students are worried. Admissions for our class 11 started in Nov and lasted till March. Students were asked to pay a deposit of Rs 30,000. These five students have opted out in spite of not getting a refund," she said.

Sandeep Pai S, chairman, Bangalore Sahodaya Schools, an association of Bengaluru schools offering CBSE as the teaching curriculum, confirmed the trend. "A parent cited the CBSE controversy as the reason for pulling out her child. This is true of several schools. We've seen cases where students have pulled out after the confusion began," he said.

Earlier, **TOI** had reported an increasing trend of more and more CBSE and ICSE students shifting to the state's pre-university board after class 10. They now account for 12% of the total PU population in Karnataka. The latest CBSE row is an unlikely reason to boost this shift.



"Some CBSE schools run PU colleges too on their campus. For students on such campuses, change is easier, as the management permits a shift. Some schools have kept the fees the same for both PU and CBSE sections, but still people prefer to take up PU. In Karnataka, parents want marks," he added.

"We had seven students with good class 10 results dropping out. We tried to convince them, but they went ahead to PU colleges," said J Bhuvaneswari, principal, Presidency School (South).

"Admissions have dropped in classes 11 and 12. We had 117 students in class 10. Only 10% came to CBSE. We could get 25 in that, of which three went to PU. The CBSE controversy is having a negative impact," said a principal, who did not want to be identified. Another principal said the CBSE controversy, which broke out a few weeks ago, might impact next year's admissions more.

KEA's MENTORSHIP APP

Bengaluru: Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has launched an app to connect students participating in this year's counselling with seniors who secured seats last year.

Called KEA Connect, the app has been developed to help students navigate the counselling process. "Currently, many middlemen are taking advantage of vulnerable students and charging them for helping them with counselling process. We want to make the procedure hassle-free for students," said **H Prasanna**, executive director of KEA. Senior students will serve as mentors, guiding aspirants through counselling and admission process. This can be provided virtually and each senior student can mentor up to five candidates. In case a student is not happy with the mentor, he/she can reject and apply for a new one.

KEA, using its database from last year, has sent a message to previous candidates to join the initiative. It has also circulated the link for students to register for the programme through engineering colleges. Participation is voluntary. Mentees will get a pop-up question once they log in on whether they want to apply for this. The mentoring will be limited to a few hours in the evening (5pm-7pm) as many senior students will also be pursuing their own education and academic responsibilities.

So far, 1,372 candidates have agreed to become mentors, while 1,724 current students have sought help and become mentees. At least 89 pairs have been set up so far. KEA has installed chatbot kiosks in its revamped office. TNN

Major drive against underage drinking

Niranjan.Kaggere
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: In a move aimed at curbing rising concerns over underage drinking in the city, govt Monday launched a stringent crackdown on liquor-serving establishments and directed police to issue notice to all pubs, breweries, bars, clubs, lounges, restaurants and other venues serving alcohol, instructing them to strictly prevent entry and service to underage persons. The govt has also ordered strict enforcement of age-verification norms and the "no ID, no entry" rule across such establishments.

The directive comes close on the heels of a study conducted by researchers from St John's Medical College, Christ University, Bengaluru, and Kasturba Medical College, Manipal. The study, based on a sample of 4,093 students from PU colleges, undergraduate colleges, and higher secondary classes across four educational institutions in Bengaluru, found that one in three adolescents in the city are at risk of developing health issues due to alcohol or tobacco use.

Based on these findings, home minister Priyank Kharge instructed cops to treat underage drinking not merely as a licensing violation, but as a serious youth safety and public health concern. "Children and youngsters must be protected from alcohol and substance abuse. Commercial establishments cannot place profit above the safety and future of our youth. Any establishment abetting underage drinking will face severe action," Kharge said, while appealing to parents, teachers, citizens, and establishment owners to cooperate with police.

The survey, according to sources, further revealed that 33% of young adults surveyed reported alcohol use, while nearly 18% were addicted to tobacco. The study also noted that the median age of alcohol initiation among Bengaluru adolescents is 17 years, with some reporting initiation as early as eight years of age.

HM'S DIRECTIONS

No ID, no entry | No person shall be allowed into pubs, breweries, bars, clubs or liquor-serving establishments without valid age proof

Mandatory age verification | Establishments must verify govt-issued identification before permitting anyone entry or serving alcohol

Strict action for violations | Establishments found serving liquor to underage persons or abetting underage drinking will be dealt with severely

CCTV compliance | Establishments must ensure CCTV systems are functional and footage is preserved for a minimum defined period to verify compliance

YOU READ IT IN TOI

Shakthi @3: Women drive bus boom, clock 754cr free bus trips in K'taka

Travel Scheme Races Towards ₹20k-cr Mark

Suchith.Kidiyoor
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: The Shakthi scheme, one of the first guarantee programmes launched by Congress govt, will complete three years on June 11. In the past three years, the state's four road transport corporations have issued more than 753.7 crore zero-fare tickets to women.

The four road transport corporations together incurred an expenditure of over Rs 19,771 crore towards the scheme's implementation between June 11, 2023 and June 5, 2026. Data suggests that on average, nearly 70 lakh women use the free travel facility every day across Karnataka, with the transport undertakings collectively incurring an expenditure of around Rs 18 crore a day. The cumulative expenditure under the scheme will cross the Rs 20,000-crore mark in the coming weeks.

Data from the four state-owned road transport corporations shows women accounted for over 61% of the 1,227 crore passenger trips recorded during the period. A total of 753.7 crore women travelled under the scheme, highlighting its growing role in improving mobility and access to public transport. The scheme allows women domiciled in Karnataka to travel for free on ordinary and express services operated by the state transport undertakings.

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT, MASSIVE REACH

	KSRTC	BMTC	NWKRTC	KKRTC
Total passengers	379.3 crore	392 crore	271.4 crore	184.8 crore
Women passengers under scheme	228.2 crore	242.7 crore	175.9 crore	106.8 crore
Value of tickets issued for women beneficiaries	₹7,502.5 crore	₹3,513.3 crore	₹4,857.5 crore	₹3,897.3 crore

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- BMTC recorded highest total passenger traffic
- BMTC also had highest number of women beneficiaries
- KSRTC accounted for highest expenditure under Shakthi scheme

File photo

OVERALL

Total passengers 1,227 crore

Women passengers under scheme 753.7 crore

Value of tickets issued for women beneficiaries ₹19,771 crore

Source: State RTCs | Data for period from June 11, 2023 to June 5, 2026

KSRTC tops expenditure

Among the four corporations, Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) incurred the highest expenditure. It issued 228.2 crore free tickets to women, with a ticket value of Rs 7,502.5 crore — nearly 38% of the total expenditure incurred under the scheme. The corporation served 379.3 crore passengers during the period, with women constituting around 60% of the overall ridership.

Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) served the highest number of women beneficiaries (242.7 crore), accounting for nearly one-third of all free trips recorded under the scheme. BMTC spent Rs 3,513 crore on providing the free travel facility. Of the 392 crore passengers who used BMTC services during the period, 242.7 crore were women. North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) recorded 175.9 crore women passengers, with a ticket value of Rs 4,857.5 crore. During the period, 271.4 crore passengers travelled on NWKRTC services, of which 175.9 crore were women, accounting for over 65% of the corporation's ridership — the highest share among the four utilities.

Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) registered 106.8 crore women passengers, generating a ticket value of Rs 3,897.3 crore. During the period, the corporation carried 184.8 crore passengers, with women accounting for nearly 58% of the total ridership.

3cr smart cards will be issued soon, says min

New transport minister Bytarathi Suresh, who assumed charge Monday, said the govt will take steps to issue Shakthi smart cards free of cost to women beneficiaries.

After conducting a review meeting with officials, the minister said the launch of the Shakthi scheme has resulted in a 40% increase in female ridership on state-run buses. He said the govt plans to issue around 3 crore Shakthi smart cards across Karnataka. "We'll float a global tender for issuing the smart cards. Instructions have been given to officials to conduct a pilot study on the usage of the cards before they are rolled out on a large scale," he said.

₹860CR CLEARED FOR 2 MONTHS

The govt has cleared Rs 860 crore for the Shakthi scheme for May and June. KSRTC will get Rs 328.7 crore, NWKRTC Rs 210.8 crore, KKRTC Rs 163.7 crore, and BMTC Rs 156.9 crore. Prior to this, the govt had disbursed an advance of Rs 500 crore to the four corporations.

The official order read: "Since state transport corporations are facing a continuous cash crunch, they are heavily dependent on the grants provided by govt for employee salary payments and other highly essential payments."

While the actual expenditure for April 2026 stood at Rs 176.5 crore, expenses skyrocketed to an estimated Rs 700 crore for May alone. To prevent operational disruptions, transport authorities urged govt to break down the annual budget allocation of Rs 5,300 crore earmarked for 2026-27 fiscal year into monthly advance instalments."

To monitor cash flow, the state has mandated that all four RTCs compile and submit division-wise actual expenditure details for the months. In addition, they must submit utilisation certificates for the cleared grants and take concrete steps to expedite distribution of Shakthi smart cards in state. TNN

Record women in IIMB batch

IIMB inaugurated its new Postgraduate Programme (PGP) cohort, with 618 students joining its flagship management programmes this academic year, recording its highest female representation. Around 41% of the students are women — the highest in the institute's history. Of the total intake, 541 students have joined PGP, while 77 are enrolled in PGP in Business Analytics (PGPBA). Women account for 42% of PGP batch and 34% of PGPBA cohort. TNN

HC upholds BWSSB's right to lay sewer lines on private land

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The high court has ruled that Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) can legally lay and maintain sewerage through private property without acquiring ownership of the land, provided it requires only a limited right of use.

However, Justice Suraj Govindaraj made it clear that the board must strictly follow the safeguards laid down in the BWSSB Act, including due procedure, minimising damage to property, and paying compensation for any loss caused to landowners. The court upheld the constitutional validity of Sections 39, 76, 77 and 92 of the BWSSB Act while partly allowing two petitions filed by landowners challenging sewer lines laid through their properties.

The judge observed that the right granted to BWSSB under Section 77 to use private land for sewerage infrastructure does not automatically amount to compulsory acquisition of property. As a result, landowners are not entitled, as a matter of course, to compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, merely because sewer lines pass beneath or across their land.

At the same time, the court held that where the impact of the sewer line substantially affects the utility, development potential, enjoyment or value of a property, compensation must be assessed realistically based on the actual loss suffered by the owner. If the board's use of the land effectively deprives the owner of normal enjoyment of the property, it would have to acquire the land under Section 127A of the Act, the judge said.

One of the petitions was filed by TN Chandrashekhara Gowda, who sought compensation for alleged soil erosion on 13 guntas of land in Hennur village and requested removal of sewer lines laid through the property. The second petition was filed by Jethronica and her son Joseph, who objected to the laying of 5ft-wide sewer pipes across their land in Nagawara without consent and sought market-value compensation under the 2013 land acquisition law.

After examining the provisions of BWSSB Act, the court held that the statutory right of use contemplated under Section 77 may impose restrictions or inconvenience on a landowner but does not by itself amount to acquisition requiring market-value compensation in every case. In Chandrashekhara Gowda's case, the court directed a proper survey of the disputed land. It also ordered the competent BWSSB authority to assess and determine compensation, if any, payable to the petitioners for permanent or temporary damage caused by the laying, existence, maintenance, repair, or renewal of sewer lines. The exercise must be completed within four months.

METRO WRAP

No Bescom online services for 21 days

Residents of 20 towns across Bengaluru Rural, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, and Tumakuru districts will face suspension of several Bescom online services for 21 days as the utility migrates consumer data to a new software platform. From June 10 to 30, consumers in the towns won't be able to access online services. However, Bescom clarified that electricity bills can be paid through third-party payment platforms.

BDA won't axe trees at HSR Layout complex

BDA has withdrawn a proposal to remove 184 trees within the premises of its commercial complex in HSR Layout, directing officials to redesign the redevelopment project to preserve the existing green cover. In a letter to GBA's deputy conservator of forests, BDA commissioner P Manivannan said BDA's executive engineer had written to the DCF (to fell trees for the project) without consulting him.

Railways OKs ₹162.5cr for traction upgrade

Indian Railways sanctioned Rs 162.5 crore to upgrade the electric traction system on Bengaluru-Tumakuru section of South Western Railway, a move aimed at enhancing rail capacity and operational efficiency on one of Karnataka's busiest corridors. The project involves converting the existing 1x25 kV electric traction system into a more advanced 2x25 kV system across 120 track kilometres.

Buffalo run over by VB

A Vande Bharat train heading towards Bengaluru from Kalaburagi ran over a buffalo Sunday afternoon while it was attempting to cross the track. The incident occurred between Hindupur and Deverapalli stations across the Karnataka-Andhra Pradesh border.

Nimhans launches vascular research lab

Nimhans has launched the Endovascular Research and Innovation (EVRI) laboratory and unveiled the first alpha prototype of an indigenous mechanical thrombectomy device, Parichay, ARICHAY', developed for acute stroke intervention. TNN

Fire at service centre, 4 cars damaged

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: A fire broke out at a car service centre in Kasturinagar near Ramamurthy Nagar in east Bengaluru early Monday. There were no casualties but four cars were damaged.

Fire and emergency services personnel received an alert about the fire at MM Cars service centre at 3.50am. A water tanker from Banaswadi fire station rushed to the spot around 4am and doused the flames within an hour.

A senior police officer said an SUV (Toyota Fortuner) and a car (Maruti Swift DZire) were gutted, while two other cars sustained minor damage. All four vehicles had been left for servicing by their owners. Police suspect the fire was due to a spark in the battery of one of the cars.

Fire in godown, cops save ₹1cr goods

Hoysala patrolling personnel from Wilson Garden police averted a tragedy after a fire broke out at a transport godown in Sudhamanagar, south Bengaluru, Friday evening. Police said goods worth nearly Rs 1 crore were saved.

The incident occurred around 4.30pm when residents noticed flames emerging from A-1 Express Transport Godown and alerted helpline Namma 112. Cops from Hoysala-20 and 21, including assistant sub-inspectors Srikantaiah and Altaf Hussain Dakhani, along with police constable Nagappa, found the flames spreading rapidly inside the premises.

They arranged for a public water tanker and began firefighting operations even before the arrival of fire and emergency services personnel. The personnel also moved a few cars and motorcycles parked nearby, preventing the flames from spreading and causing further damage.

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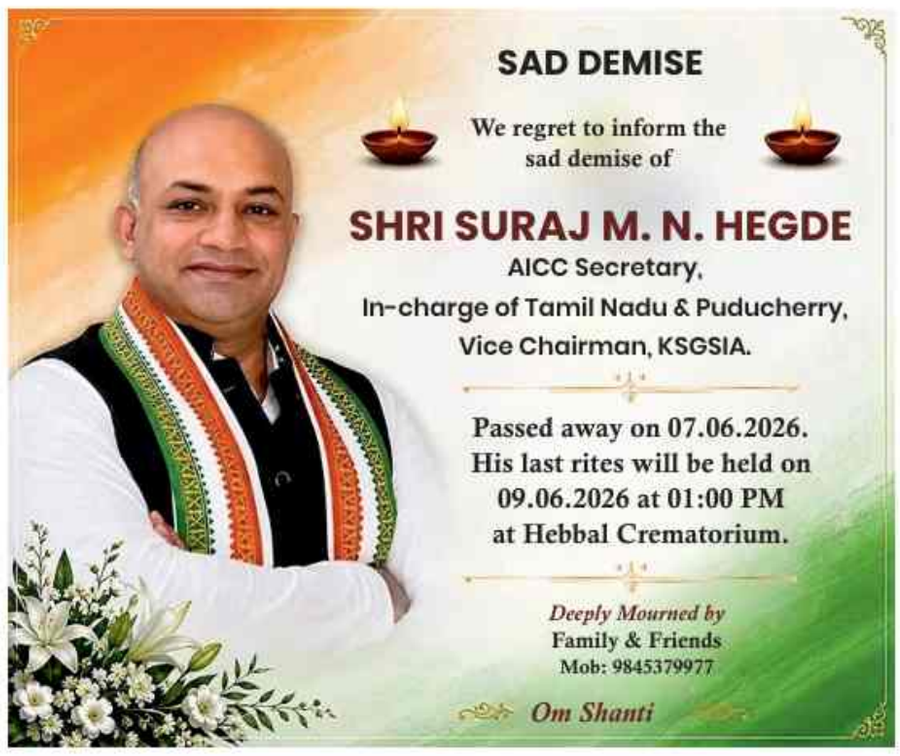

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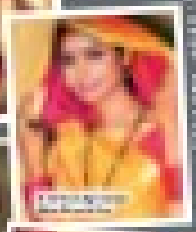
'Channels told us dowry is a gloomy subject'



'A decade in the industry taught me to stand my ground'

AR Rahman pays musical tribute at Attari Border

Playing mythological characters has made me a better person: Karthik

Twist to kid's death: Medical report hints at belly injury

MUV Under Test; Cops Collect CCTV Footage From Eateries

Rajiv.Kalkod@timesofindia.com

Priyanka told police that after driving out from their Seegehalli villa in east Bengaluru, the couple and the child visited many shops and eateries in Indiranagar and nearby areas during the day. In the evening and night, they drove to Hoskote, where they had biryani and ice cream, and to Kolar near where they stopped outside a coffee shop

Priyanka

Mohan

Bengaluru: What led to the death of a six-year-old girl in Bengaluru in March: Abdominal injuries, asphyxiation or was it an intentional murder?

P Vennela died on March 24, with police arresting her mother's live-in partner on murder charges. Now, a histopathology report has indicated internal injuries in the girl's stomach. Histopathology is a microscopic examination of tissue to study manifestations of a disease.

In a police complaint, Vennela's father Praveen had suspected Vennela was kicked in the stomach and smothered to death.

Vennela, second daughter of now-separated couple Praveen and Priyanka, died under mysterious circumstances. She was brought to Vaidehi Hospital by Priyanka and her friend Mohan.

Priyanka claimed Vennela was asleep inside their multiutility vehicle (MUV) with glasses rolled up the previous night and this could have choked her to death. The MUV is under forensic examination now.

On June 4, Praveen filed a fresh case, accusing Priyanka and Mohan of murdering his daughter as she was an "obstacle" in their way. While Mohan is in 10-day police custody, Priyanka is still at large.

To collect more evidence in this connection, cops have subjected the MUV, in which Vennela was asleep before her death, to a luminol test. The test is a water-based forensic solution and can detect blood diluted up to 10,000 times. The test will be carried out at a forensic science laboratory. If blood drops are found inside the MUV, they will be subjected to a DNA test and get confirmation of its owner.

A senior police officer said they are recreating the crime scene by visiting all the places where Priyanka and Mohan, along with the victim, Vennela, travelled in their MUV on March 24.

"After driving out from their Seegehalli villa in east Bengaluru, the couple and the child visited many shops and eateries in Indiranagar and nearby areas during the day. In the evening and night, they drove towards Hoskote and Kolar. In Hoskote, they had biryani and ice cream. Near Kolar, they stopped outside a coffee shop.

"In her statement on March 24, Priyanka told us that soon after eating biryani and ice cream, Vennela fell asleep in the MUV back seat. She was sleeping when they drove home from Kolar. Since she was still not awake, Priyanka physically carried her to the bedroom," cops quoted Priyanka as saying.

Cops collected CCTV footage from the Seegehalli villa, where Priyanka and Mohan lived, and from other eateries in Hoskote and coffee shop in Kolar.

Chicken shop owner booked for killing dogs

Bengaluru: A fight between owners of a chicken shop and garage over waste-dumping ended in the fatal poisoning two stray dogs, including a four-month-old puppy, in Vijaya Bank Layout, Mico Layout.

Resident Varsha Anjanappa filed a police complaint, accusing chicken shop owner Tyagaraj of poisoning the two dogs to death. Accordingly, a criminal case has been registered against Tyagaraj, owner of GEV Broilers. A senior police officer said they are waiting for the autopsy report to take further action.

Varsha, a private company employee and an animal lover, she and some more residents feed stray dogs near her house. One of them was four-year-old Whitey and the puppy was Brownie. Akbar Khan, owner of HKGN Automobile and Garage, would regularly fight with Tyagaraj over unscientific disposal of waste materials from his chicken shop.

"On May 31 morning, Whitey collapsed and was taken to a nearby veterinary hospital, where it died. Next morning, Brownie too collapsed and was rushed to the hospital. But he too died," she said. On both occasions, it was Akbar who shifted the dogs to the hospitals. According to Varsha, doctors at the hospital told them the dogs were poisoned to death.

"Tyagaraj added rat poison to the meat and threw it in front of the shop. When questioned, he told us he had targeted the rats, and not the dogs," Varsha claimed to police. TNN

If a foreigner is raped, it is very serious: HC judge

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Justice M Nagaprasanna has directed securing the investigation papers and placing them before the high court by Wednesday

Bengaluru: Observing that it is a "very serious matter" if a foreigner is raped in India, the Karnataka high court Monday ordered notice to Kutta police in Kodagu in response to a petition filed by a homestay owner, challenging an FIR registered against him in mid-April. The case was registered after a 33-year-old US woman alleged she had been drugged, held captive and sexually assaulted in the hospitality facility.

KODAGU HOMESTAY CASE

Homestay owner Vishal Ponnana, along with cook Brijesh Kumar, were arrested after the Washington-based solo traveller who checked in at the homestay on April 12 said she consumed a drink and slipped into a semi-conscious state before the assault took place.

Justice M Nagaprasanna directed securing the investigation papers and placing them before the court by Wednesday, considering the matter to be serious. "There's not a case where I could grant a blanket stay straight away. I want to see the investigation papers," the judge said.

Justice Nagaprasanna observed, "If a citizen of another country is raped here, it's a very serious offence."

During the hearing, counsel for the petitioner argued that the alleged offences are bailable in nature. According to him, the complainant's statement does not allege that he (petitioner) was, at any time prior to registration of FIR, informed of the alleged offence.

He claimed that the complainant identified the offender on April 12 as the housekeeper (co-accused in the case) and not the petitioner. The WhatsApp/call/travel record contradicts the complainant's allegation of confinement or communication blockade, the homestay owner claimed.

Terming his arrest as well as judicial custody from April 19 till May 2 illegal as it violated his fundamental rights, the petitioner urged the court for quashing of proceedings apart from seeking independent inquiry into the investigation.

He submitted that media reports published after his arrest suggested he had prior knowledge of the alleged sexual assault even though no such allegations were made in the complaint.

The judge said, "We will see whether your fundamental (rights) are violated or not. Let the investigation papers (be produced)."

Rift reaches Cong brass

▶ Continued from page 1

The planning authorities include Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority and Bangalore International Airport Area Planning Authority.

Sources said the matter has reached the party high command. Byre Gowda reportedly met Shivakumar last week, saying he won't take up charge till planning authorities are brought under his control.

The argument made before the CM was that the officials who are in charge of the urban development department shall have to report to two bosses -- the CM and also Byre Gowda -- on the same issues related to development of the City.

"This is expected to create conflicts. The CM's order will eventually prevail over the minister's directions," said a source. It is claimed the party is yet to communicate its stand on the portfolio since it was busy with INDIA bloc meeting. CMO officials said Shivakumar is expected to resolve the issue himself and convince Byre Gowda to take charge soon.

As family sleeps, burglars strike villa & flee with gold worth ₹35L

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

TOI

CAUGHT ON CAM: CCTV image of the burglars at the house

Bengaluru: A family woke up to a shocking discovery after burglars gained entry into their villa in north Bengaluru early on June 5 and decamped with gold jewellery worth Rs 30-35 lakh.

According to the complaint filed by owner Rohit Basumatary, 38, a resident of Prestige Oasis Villas on Adde Vishwanathapura Road in Rajanukunte, the family had gone to sleep around 10pm on June 4. Sometime before dawn, burglars entered the house through the kitchen door while the occupants were asleep in one of the bedrooms.

The intruders reportedly moved through the house and entered the master bedroom, where they targeted valuables stored inside a wardrobe. Basumatary told police the burglars escaped with a large quantity of gold jewellery, including a 30-gram necklace, earrings, multiple ornament sets, gold chains, pendants and eight pairs of earrings.

Police said the stolen items are worth between Rs 30 lakh and Rs 35 lakh, making it one of the major house burglaries reported in the area in recent months. The incident came to light when the family woke up around 5am.

When they checked CCTV cameras installed at the residence, they found footage of three suspects entering the house around 1.20am. The masked burglars were wearing hoodies and jeans.

Rajanukunte police registered a case under BNS Sections 331(4) (Punishment for house-trespass or housebreaking) and 305 (Theft in a dwelling house, or means of transportation, etc.)

— With inputs from Swathi Satheesh Kumar

BJP MLA: Spirit of Rera Act is to protect consumers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Rajajinagar MLA and former minister S Suresh Kumar Monday said the spirit of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (Rera) is to protect consumers and should not be diluted through technical interpretations.

His statement comes after the high court decided to stay the applicability of Rera Act to BDA residential layouts.

He criticised BDA's move to seek exemption from the regulator's jurisdiction, arguing it should focus on fulfilling its commitments to allottees instead of defending its shortcomings. "BDA must first decide whether it is a regulator and infrastructure builder for Bengaluru or a developer of layouts and builder of flats. That will give clarity to citizens, regulators and lawmakers," Kumar said.

The MLA said BDA's handling of major layouts such as Banashankari 6th Stage, Arkavathy Layout and NPKL had damaged its credibility at a time when it was pursuing plans for large-scale urban expansion. He noted that allottees in Banashankari 6th Stage and Arkavathy Layout, both over two decades old, continue to face title disputes and inadequate roads, drainage and drinking water infrastructure.

Conditions are unfair, say homeowners, contractors

▶ Continued from page 1

The exemption had become mandatory following an SC order. However, the fine print of govt's order left many homeowners worried. It stated only applications submitted before May 31 would qualify for the relaxation.

Homeowners and electrical contractors argued the condition was unfair. Since SC's Dec 2024 verdict, many Bescom offices had stopped accepting applications from properties lacking approved building plans. "Many homeowners never even got a chance to apply," said a senior office-bearer of Karnataka Electrical Contractors' Association (KECA).

Satish Kumar, a homeowner from Kengeri, said he completed construction in Oct 2025 and moved into the house the following month under a temporary connection. "When I approached Bescom for permanent connection, officials refused to accept my application. We continued to live with a temporary connection. It is unfair to insist on cutoff date now when applications were not being received," he said.

C Ramesh, president of KECA, said applications remain valid only for a limited period under Sakala framework. "If an application is not processed within the stipulated time, it lapses automatically. Most homeowners waited for clarity instead of filing fresh applications," he said.

A Bescom official said eligible homeowners won't lose benefits of relaxation.

Man, daughter arrested for conning govt job aspirants

Bengaluru: The organised crime squad (east) of Central Crime Branch (CCB) arrested a man and his daughter on charges of orchestrating a govt job scam that duped more than 40 aspirants of over Rs 5.3 crore.

The arrested are Shamshad Begum MM, 48, and Mansoor Ahmed MM, 78, residents of Ganganagar in RT Nagar. The fraud came to light following a complaint by Sangamesh Rachayya Vastrad from Vijayapura district in Nov last year. The duo posed as influential intermediaries with connections to senior govt officials and political functionaries, claiming they could secure jobs in railways, income tax department, irrigation, health and social welfare departments.

Police said the accused issued fake appointment letters and even set up bogus training centres in Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata. To gain the trust of victims, they paid salaries for up to four months to a few before cutting off their contact. Vastrad claimed he paid Rs 2.5 crore to secure jobs for his relatives and children of his friends. TNN

Wooden walkway planned around Jakkur Lake

Bengaluru: GBA chief commissioner Maheshwar Rao directed officials to prepare plans for a wooden walkway around Jakkur Lake and expedite a series of infrastructure projects in the area, including completion of the long-pending Jakkur railway flyover.

During inspection of Jakkur Lake and surrounding areas, Rao instructed officials from BWSSB, BDA and Bengaluru North City Corporation to jointly prepare a blueprint for the proposed wooden walkway and a pedestrian bridge near the railway track adjoining the lake.

Rao said the 600-metre-long Jakkur railway flyover is nearing completion, with only asphalt-laying work pending. He instructed officials to finish the remaining work within a week and open the flyover to the public. TNN

Govt to hire 3,400 constables

Bengaluru: The police department has issued a recruitment notification for 3,395 civil police constable posts in the state. Applications are being accepted online from eligible candidates Monday onwards.

The govt has granted a one-time relaxation of five years in the upper age limit, fixing it at 33 years for general category candidates, 35 years for SC/ST and backward class aspirants, and 38 years for tribals. The online application process will remain open till July 3. Applications can be submitted only through KEA website. Candidates seeking information or technical assistance can contact KEA helpline 080-23460460 or visit its official X account. TNN

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Token of gratitude: Ex-student gifts car to schoolteacher who shaped his life

Basavaraj Maralihalli | TNN

TOI

PROUD MOMENT: Naveen Hulihalli handed over the car to high school teacher CS Vastrad in the presence of Gurusidda Rajyogindra Swami of Kumareshwar Mutt, Hangal

Haveri: Over 1,000 alumni of Kumareshwara High School, run by Kumareshwara Vidyavardhaka Trust in Hangal, came together to host a grand farewell for retiring teacher CS Vastrad — an event that became the talk of the district.

The farewell, held on May 30, reflected the Guru–Shishya tradition and marked a proud moment for the trust. A key highlight was the presentation of a new Maruti Suzuki Swift by Naveen Hulihalli, an alumnus from 2007 SSLC batch. The vehicle was formally handed over in the presence of Sri Gurusidda Rajyogindra Swami of Kumareshwar Mutt, Hangal.

Alumni from several batches attended the event, filling the school campus to honour Vastrad and reconnect with their classmates. Many shared memories of his strict discipline and the life lessons he imparted. Naveen, who now works in an MNC in Bengaluru, had lost his father during childhood and struggled to continue his education due to poverty. Vastrad supported him financially and even conducted classes during holidays for students' welfare.

"Vastrad didn't just teach us from textbooks; he taught us how to navigate life. He was not just a teacher but also a parent to me until I completed my post-graduation. I wanted to do something that reflected how much his guidance changed my life. This car is a token of my lifelong gratitude," Hulihalli said.

As the ribbon-wrapped car was driven onto the stage, Naveen handed over the keys to Vastrad in the presence of the swami, trust officials and others.

"I only did my duty. Seeing 1,000 of my students gathered here, along with the swami's blessings, is the greatest reward. Naveen's gesture has left me speechless. Meeting all my students again brought back many classroom memories. They have always been obedient," Vastrad said.

RS ticket setback signals end to Deve Gowda's electoral run?

June 25 May Be His Last Day In Public Office

Santoshkumar.B
@timesofindia.com

PTI
JD(S) does not have numbers to send Deve Gowda to RS

Bengaluru: BJP's decision to field its own nominee for Rajya Sabha elections may have brought the curtains down on former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda's career in electoral politics.

However, sources close to the Gowda family said the 93-year-old JD(S) patriarch will not retire from active politics. "He will tour the state to strengthen JD(S) ahead of upcoming elections," a party leader said.

If Gowda sticks to his decision to not represent another state in the Rajya Sabha, June 25 will mark the end of his stint in public office.

During his illustrious political career, he served eight terms as an MLA, six terms as a member of Lok Sabha and two terms as a Rajya Sabha member. Except for brief interruptions, Gowda has held public office continuously for most of his 64 years in politics. His political journey began in 1962 when he was elected independent MLA from Holenarasipura in Hassan district. Since his first victory, Gowda has spent only four years outside the legislature or parliament.

He suffered his first electoral defeat in the 1989 assembly election from Holenarasipura. He lost the 1999 Lok Sabha elections from Hassan, but made a comeback in Feb 2002 by winning the Kanakapura Lok Sabha by-election, defeating current chief minister DK Shivakumar.

After losing the 2019 Lok Sabha election from Tumakuru, he was elected to Rajya Sabha in June 2020 with Congress help.

BJP-JD(S) alliance on thin ice, regional partner disappointed

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The candidature of BJP's M Nagaraj for Rajya Sabha elections has triggered rumours of a rift within the BJP-JD(S) alliance. The regional partner is reportedly disappointed after HD Deve Gowda was not considered for the ticket.

Asked if Gowda's name was considered, BJP state president BY Vijayendra said the party had immense respect for the former prime minister.

"Gowda has strengthened Narendra Modi's hands and supported NDA. There was never any discussion at the state level about sending him to the Rajya Sabha. Considering the present political situation, an opportunity has been given to a suitable candidate and a hardworking party worker," Vijayendra said.

JD(S) functionaries said all other options of fielding Gowda had "fizzled" out and the chances of him being considered from another state were slim.

BJP's decision to announce Nagaraj's name also indicated the party may go solo in future elections, considering its alliance with JD(S) being a wait-and-watch proposition till 2028 assembly elections.

Some functionaries said Gowda was never in the reckoning as the JD(S) did not have its numbers.

AICC general secretary and Karnataka in-charge **Randeep Singh Surjewala** accused BJP of insulting both Gowda and JD(S) by denying the nomination.

The remarks drew a strong response from JD(S), which accused Congress of hypocrisy and political opportunism. JD(S) described Gowda as a towering national leader and only PM from Karnataka and accused Surjewala of trying to politicise the issue for partisan gains.

2-yr CM remark puts DKS' 2028 ambitions in spotlight

Sandeep.Moudgal
@timesofindia.com

PTI
DK Shivakumar asked his supporters if they are happy if he is CM only for 2 years

Bengaluru: Chief minister DK Shivakumar does not appear to be wasting time planning for the next assembly elections and projecting himself as the face of the party in 2028. The CM's statement on his home turf Sunday suggests he is already eyeing the next five-year term, and the next two years is going to be a test run to prove his leadership credibility at the helm of administrative affairs.

That the statement comes from one of their strongest functionaries — amid claims that the party believes in collective leadership and democratic values — has created a buzz in political circles.

On Sunday, traversing across 20 locations in his home district on a voters' thanksgiving journey after becoming CM, Shivakumar's sole statement was that of asking the rhetorical question of whether they were happy with him being only a two-year chief minister.

Late Sunday night, he said, "I should not remain a two-year CM. You need to get me elected in 2028 to ensure I become CM again."

"This is a statement to give his followers and voters a pep talk to work for his victory in 2028. As CM, he will take everyone along before an official decision is taken to declare him the face of the party for the next elections," said a senior Congress functionary.

Party insiders claim it is obvious that the CM of a ruling party will automatically become the face of that party ahead of the next elections. Political commentators like Harish Ramaswamy suggest Shivakumar's posturing as the CM face, at this early stage, is a calculated move by the Vokkaliga strongman.

"The CM has always been two steps ahead of his contemporaries. Be it before taking charge as KPCC president or before the formation of Congress govt in 2023, he made the right noises much ahead of time to position himself favourably. Even now, by declaring himself as the CM candidate in 2028, he is trying to position himself much before any rivals can stake claim within the party," Ramaswamy pointed out.

JD(S), Cong to battle for council seat

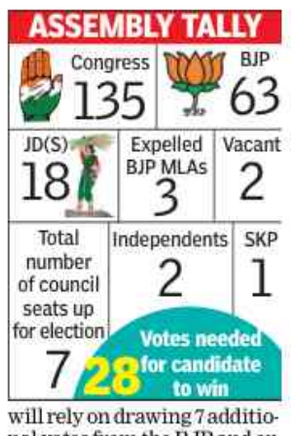
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Janata Dal (S) Monday decided to turn the legislative council elections into a contest by renominating sitting MLC Govind Raju despite falling short by two votes for a clear win. Voting will be held through a preferential ballot system.

Of the seven council seats going to polls on June 18, Congress is comfortably placed to win four seats, while BJP is expected to secure two.

The ruling Congress has also fielded a fifth candidate, Vinay Karthik, a close aide of CM DK Shivakumar, turning the election into a prestige battle for the party and the govt. Karthik was among several aides of DKS who were raided by the ED and I-T officials in 2017.

The JD(S), which is short of 10 votes to get its nominee elected on its own strength,



will rely on drawing 7 additional votes from the BJP and on BJP expelled legislator Basangouda Patil Yatnal to help its candidate.

If it manages the numbers then it will have a total of 26 votes. A candidate needs 28 votes to elect one MLC in a house of 222 members.

But on the flipside, the Congress is also far from comfortable if it fails to secure the votes of two independents — Latha Mallikarjun and K H Puttaswamy Gowda — along with Darshan Puttanaiah (SKP) and the two expelled BJP MLAs, ST Somashekar and Shivaram Hebbar, who are considered closer to Congress than their former party.

After allotting 112 member votes to its first four candidates, the Congress will have 23 votes surplus for the first round and will require the 5 votes to reach the magic number of 28 votes.

If both sides fail to garner the requisite numbers then the election will head to a second preferential vote with Congress holding a clear edge due to its absolute majority.

JD(S) functionaries told **TOI** that the agenda will be to "arrange" the numbers by wooing the two expelled BJP MLAs and, if possible, one of the two independents.

Reddy ends suspense, takes irrigation baton

Bengaluru: Days after wrangling over portfolio allocation that saw him submitting his resignation and withdrawing it under party pressure, senior Congress minister R Ramalinga Reddy finally took charge as major and medium scale irrigation minister.

After his first meeting with department officials, Reddy said he will go to Delhi to hold talks with the Jal Shakti minister to get clearances for pending projects of Karnataka.

Reddy said he has scheduled two more rounds of talks with the department and four river boards over the next one week to finalise the structure for talks in Delhi. He said there is a need to address the shortage of drinking water for Bengaluru which will be his priority.

He reiterated he will not accept another portfolio and will continue to be the irrigation minister till the end of his tenure. TNN

Kharge to BJP: Keep RSS docus ready

Bengaluru: Home minister Priyank Kharge and BJP waged an online war of words over Sunday and Monday, with the minister urging the opposition party to keep registration documents of their "political parents" (read RSS) ready. BJP launched an attack on Congress home ministers and called Kharge "incompetent who rambles" on issues which have nothing to do with him.

Kharge, in his response, cited a caustic comment by a social-media user, reportedly from an RSS-backed handle. Kharge said in a post: "It has not even been 48 hours since I assumed office as home minister. Yet, your fear, anxiety, and distress are evident. You have begun using RSS to abuse me and are even issuing threats to my life." TNN

SHORT TAKES

4K RDPR posts to be filled soon, says Eshwar Khandre

Having taken charge as RDPR minister, Eshwar Khandre said that of 8,770 vacant posts, action will be initiated to fill at least 4,000. On Monday, Khandre said as many as 268 posts under A group, 1,079 B group, 5,294 C group and 2,129 D group jobs were lying vacant in RDPR department. Khandre said in the first cabinet meeting, chief minister DK Shivakumar had given the green signal to fill as many as 1,400 RDPR posts out of 56,000 govt positions. Earlier, Khandre said the department will ensure elections to all gram panchayats are held before the end of this year. He said the processes of delimitation and reservation of wards in panchayats will be completed in the next eight weeks.

Devaraj Urs' grandson, AICC secy Suraj Hegde dies at 55

AICC secretary **Suraj Hegde**, who was formerly vice-chairman of the guarantee schemes' implementation panel, passed away in Bengaluru late Sunday night. Hegde, 55, was the grandson of former chief minister Devaraj Urs. He is survived by wife and two children. Party leader Rahul Gandhi, chief minister DK Shivakumar and KPCC president BK Hariprasad were among those who offered condolences.

JD(S) MLAs meet CM, seek equal development grants

A delegation of JD(S) MLAs Monday urged chief minister DK Shivakumar to ensure equitable allocation of development grants to their constituencies during a courtesy meeting at Vidhana Soudha. The delegation, led by JD(S) floor leader in the assembly CB Suresh Babu, met Shivakumar and congratulated him on assuming office as CM. The JD(S) legislators informed the CM that the previous govt had allocated Rs 50 crore each to Congress MLAs for development works, while JD(S) legislators received only Rs 25 crore. They urged Shivakumar not to discriminate against opposition legislators and sought equal allocation of funds to enable them to undertake development works in their constituencies.

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I VARDHANAM PILAKA (as per Aadhaar) alias P V P VARDHANAM (as per 10th/12th Marks Card) alias PILAKA VENKATA PUSHKARA VARDHANAM (as per Engg Degree Cert) alias VARDHANAM V P PILAKA (as per DL) alias VENKATA PUSHKARA VARDHANAM PILAKA (as per Passport Y5626630) D/o Mr. SATYA NARAYANA MURTI PILAKA, aged 34 yrs born on 12 Sep 1991 residing at H No 5 and 6 4th Main Nataraja Layout 7th Phase J P Nagar Bangalore Karnataka - 560078 have changed my name to VARDHANAM PILAKA for all future purposes (Reason - Long Name) vide affidavit bearing Certificate No - IN-KA78446935082080Y dated 3-June-2026 sworn before notary L PUTTARAJU, Bengaluru Reg. No. LAW 173 LCL 2005

I, Ramesh Babu Uppara declared that I have changed the name of my daughter U Laasya to Laasya U, my wife's name U Lalitha to Lalitha Uppara and my own name U Ramesh Babu to Ramesh Babu Uppara R/o 49, C Cross, Anajanadri Layout, Babusapalya, Bengaluru 560043 vide Affidavit dated 14.05.2026 before Notary Public/Bengaluru.

I, Sujal Satish Kamath W/o Kundapur Ganesh Shenoy, Residing at 1042, Sobha Clovelly, Subramanya Pura, Gowdanapalya, Opposite Prarthana School, Uttarhalli Hobli, Bangalore – 560061, have changed my name to SUJAL KAMATH vide Affidavit dated 03.06.2026 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil GG, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560011.

I, Anushri Kashinath Hampiholi, R/O No 101, Shankari Shelters, Kuvempu Road, Rajeshwari Layout, Yelachenahalli Bangalore, Karnataka - 560062 have changed my name as Anushri Hampiholi

I, Jayanth B R/o No 221 3rd Cross Tg Layout Ittamadu Bsk 3rd Stage Bangalore 560085 have changed my minor daughter's name from Srushti Harithas to Tanvi Harithas for all purposes.

I, Reema Shetty residing at #S2, 2nd floor, sunshine residency, B block, sahakarnagar, Bangalore-560092, stating that, my name mentioned in SSLC marks card and passport as Ariadka Reema Shetty. But my correct name is Reema Shetty as per Aadhaar card and Pan Card. So, I hereby request the concerned authority to consider my name as Reema Shetty only. Therefore, I have sworn before Notary and Advocate S.R.Ravikumar vide affidavit dated 18.11.2021.

I, Albert Patric, father of Phylicia Christable Joseph, declare that my name has been incorrectly recorded as Albert Patrick in my daughter's ICSE Board educational records. My correct name is Albert Patric, and my name shall be read and recorded as Albert Patric for all purposes. Vide Affidavit dated 26.03.2026, sworn before Notary Y. R. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

2nd birthday for our little prince, we give you double the love today
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From Great Grandmother, Dada-Dadi, Nana - Nani, Chachu-Chachi - Nihu and Mumma Papa

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8 to 10 green / white blank pages to be used for typing/ drafting legal matters bearing my signature where found missing from my chamber at Rai clinic, Cambridge road ulsoor. Blore-8 on 15/02/26 I shall not be liable for any deed, legal contract promise notes or financial obligation typed or written on these sheets. Anyone doing doing so is at their own risk. Police intimation done.
Dr sandesh rai

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PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE FAMILY COURT AT ERNAKULAM. O.P.No 1275 /2025. Petitioner Respondents : Sapna Unnikrishnan and another. : C.S.Manojkumar and another. NOTICE TO SECOND RESPONDENT. Second Respondent ; Anuradha. C.S, @Anuradha Surendran, aged about 50 years, W/o Surendran C Karaveettil, Residing at No.10, 4th Main, 4th Block, Ayyappa Nagar, K.R.Puram, Bangalore, Pin-560036. Take notice that above numbered O.P.1275/2025 filed by the petitioner for recovery of money and gold, stand posted on 27-7-2026 at 11.A.M. If no appearance is made on your behalf, by yourself or someone authorised by law to act for you in the Original Petition and interim Applications, it will be heard and decided in your absence. Dated this the 3rd day of June 2026. ADV.T.S.MAYA, Counsel for petitioner

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with applicable rules, and subject to approval of the Regional Director, the Company proposes to shift its Registered Office from the State of Karnataka to the State of Odisha.
Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of registered office may deliver or cause to be delivered his/her objections, if any, to the Regional Director at M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru 560001 within 21 days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the Company at its registered office.
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PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Angad Singh Bedi, S/o Jasjit Singh Bedi, aged about 41 years, residing at 1-72, Diamond District, Old Airport Road, Kodihalli, Bengaluru - 560008, hereby inform that my name reflects as S. Angad Singh Bedi in some of my records and as
in certain other records. Both the names, S. Angad Singh Bedi and Angad Singh Bedi, refer to one and the same person (i.e. myself).
Henceforth, I shall be known as Angad Singh Bedi for all purposes vide affidavit dated on 27/5/26 sworn before the Notary S.I Balaguru at Bengaluru

TENDERS

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Download period of RFP from website: 04-06-2026 to 24-06-2026 till 17:30 hrs
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Dated:- 08-06-2026
MANAGER (Estate)
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Downloading period of RFP from website: 08-06-2026 to 29-06-2026 till 17:30 hrs
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TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026

INDIA BLOC SHOULD DECLARE PRIME MINISTER FACE FOR 2029 LOK SABHA POLLS, URGES SANJAY RAUT OF SENA(UBT)

ANDHRA PRADESH MINISTER NARA LOKESH CONCLUDES RUSSIA VISIT AFTER EXPLORING TECH & INDUSTRIAL PARTNERSHIPS

HACK OF THE DAY — **FIND STEP-FREE ROUTES ON GOOGLE MAPS**

WHAT IT SOLVES: Helps people using wheelchairs, senior citizens, parents with strollers, and travellers with heavy luggage avoid routes with difficult stairs

WHAT TO DO: Use Google Maps' wheelchair-accessible transit route option when planning public transport trips

STEPS:

1. **Open** Google Maps and search for your destination
2. **Tap** Directions
3. **Choose** the public transport option
4. **Open** route options
5. **Select** Wheelchair accessible before choosing your route

NOTE: This is also a smart trick when travelling with elderly parents, luggage, children, or an injury

SCAN FOR MORE

Hacks are based on verified public sources. Readers are advised to follow official websites & updated rules

Wedding nod brings man down from pole

In a scene reminiscent of "Sholay", a 29-year-old man climbed a 40-feet high-tension electricity pole in Odisha's Sundargarh district on Sunday night and threatened to end his life unless the woman of his dreams agreed to marry him.

The incident at Budakata under Kutra police station limits kept locals on the edge for nearly four hours until Suraj Khalko climbed down around 2 am on Monday after the woman, a widow and mother of two, reached the spot and agreed to marry him.

Estranged from his wife for the past three years, Suraj lives with his two sons, aged 7 and 5. He had met Madhuri Bud (24), a widow from a nearby village, three months back. TNN

STATOISTICS A slice of life in numbers

1 in 7 climbers never returns from this 8,000m peak

Nearly one climber has died on the Annapurna-I for every seven who have summited the mountain, making it the most dangerous of the world's 8,000-metre peaks. Its steep faces, avalanche-prone terrain, unpredictable weather and technical climbing routes contribute to its high fatality rate

	Deaths	Successful Climbs	Fatality Rate%
Annapurna I (Nepal)	75	559	13.4
Dhaulagiri (Nepal)	92	707	13.0
Kangchenjunga (Nepal)	54	690	7.8
Makalu (Nepal-China)	51	891	5.7
Everest (Nepal-China)	344	13,752	2.5
Manaslu (Nepal)	90	3,750	2.4
Lhotse (Nepal-China)	25	1,473	1.7
Cho Oyu (Nepal-China)	52	4,081	1.3

*As of Feb 7, 2025; Source: Guinness World Records

Defence min considering penalty on HAL for Tejas delays

Surendra.Singh
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The defence ministry is looking to impose penalties on defence PSU Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) over continued delays in delivery of Tejas Mk1A fighter aircraft, defence sources said on Monday.

The delivery issue was reviewed during a meeting chaired by defence minister Rajnath Singh on Monday. Until now, not a single Tejas Mk1A has been delivered by HAL to Indian Air Force (IAF).

"At least six engines from General Electric (GE) Aerospace have already been received by HAL for Tejas. The structures of 18 aircraft are also ready with it. We can understand the delays in engine delivery on the part of GE, but that is a separate issue. However, as the six GE engines had already arrived, HAL should have delivered at least six aircraft to IAF by now. Due to the delay, there could be liquidated damages (LD) being applied," the sources said.

Defence ministry's contract with a vendor includes a delivery period. If the vendor delays the supply, the govt applies LD.

"At least 18-24 LCA Mk1A aircraft are expected to be ready by the end of the year if HAL is able to make up for some of those shortfalls (Air Staff Qualitative Requirements). HAL has been asked to meet the commitments and timelines," the sources said. IAF had signed two major contracts with the defence PSU for a total of 180 Tejas aircraft — the first contract was signed in 2021 for 83 Tejas aircraft and the second was inked in 2025 for 97 jets.

CBSE claims post-result portal worked smoothly

Key Questions On OSM Review Process Remain Unanswered

Manash.Gohain
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: CBSE on Monday defended the functioning of its post-result services portal, stating that more than 1.6 lakh candidates had submitted requests for verification and re-evaluation between June 2 and June 7 (the window for the purpose), even as several questions regarding the review process and the ongoing On-Screen Marking (OSM) controversy remain unanswered.

In a statement posted on X, board said the application window for verification and re-evaluation "remained fully functional throughout the notified period" under supervision of govt technical agencies and IIT teams.

"During the above application period, more than 1.6 lakh candidates successfully submitted requests pertaining to over 3.8 lakh answer books, reflecting the extensive utilisation of the services by candidates," CBSE said.

It added that system remained under "continuous monitoring by dedicated cybersecurity teams" and that helpdesk and grievance redressal support was provided to students throughout the exercise.

> **The application window for verification and re-evaluation 'remained fully functional throughout the notified period' under supervision of govt technical agencies and IIT teams**
>
> **CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (CBSE)**

The clarification comes amid complaints from students regarding scanned answer sheets, portal access issues and alleged mismatches in answer-book copies released under board's new digital evaluation system.

CBSE also sought to explain reports of candidates encountering the message "Roll Number Not Found" on portal. According to it, the message appeared only when a candidate had not successfully applied during first stage of the post-result process — obtaining scanned copies of answer books.

"... only those candidates who had applied for their scanned answer books during the preceding stage (Answer Books Photocopy) were eligible to avail the subsequent stage of Verification of Issues Observed and Re-evaluation of Answers," it said.

However, CBSE did not address several key issues.

Till the filing of this report, it had not disclosed how many of the 1.6 lakh candidates applied for verification of marks and how many sought re-evaluation of answers. It also did not clarify whether technical glitches, login failures, payment problems or portal access issues may have affected number of applications received.

Another unresolved issue concerns the apparent gap between figures released by CBSE at different stages. On May 26, board had said more than four lakh applications were received for scanned answer books.

Monday's statement referred to requests concerning over 3.8 lakh answer books in the verification and re-evaluation phase. CBSE did not clarify whether all candidates who had sought scanned copies received them, or whether around 20,000 answer books did not proceed to the next stage.

Board also did not provide data on how many students applied separately for verification and re-evaluation, how many cases have been processed so far, whether the exercise is being conducted through OSM platform or manually, the current status of cyberattack attempts reported earlier, and whether verification and re-evaluation of disputed answer sheets has begun.

Kerala road named after Navy sailor who saved woman, child

VM Subair | TNN

Palakkad: Over a decade after Navy sailor Vishnu Unni sacrificed his life while saving a mother and her seven-month-old daughter from drowning in Kochi backwaters, a road in his native Thrithala grama panchayat in Kerala's Palakkad district has been named 'Navikan Vishnu Road' in tribute to his bravery.

On Oct 3, 2014, Vishnu (24), undergoing training at INS Dronacharya in Kochi, jumped into Vembanad Lake after seeing a woman throw her daughter from Venduruthy Bridge and then leap into the water herself.

Without hesitation, he dived in to rescue them. He managed to bring the mother and child to safety but was swept away by the strong current. While the woman survived, the child later died in hospital.

Police said the mother had been suffering from depression over her daughter's suspected ailment. A TOI report dated Oct 4, 2014, stated that the incident occurred around 1pm when Vishnu and his colleague, Arun Krishnan, were passing by on a motorcycle.

SBI customers lose ₹6.3cr in 30,700 fraud cases in 3 yrs

Proshun.Chakraborty
@timesofindia.com

Nagpur: More than 30,700 fraud cases involving State Bank of India customers siphoned off over Rs 6,313 crore between Apr 2023 and Mar 2026, RTI data shows, exposing persistent cracks in banking's digital frontier despite tighter fraud-monitoring systems.

Bengal emerged as country's fraud capital in SBI's records, logging 3,426 cases involving over Rs 143 crore. SBI did not provide comparable state-wise figures but said Bengal recorded highest number of frauds during the three-year period.

Figures obtained by Nagpur-based RTI activist Abhay Kolarkar reveal a striking trend: fraud volume is shrinking, but ticket sizes are growing. Cases plunged from 14,717 in 2023-24 to 2,247 in 2025-26, yet losses remained steep at over Rs 1,745 crore last fiscal, suggesting fraudsters are increasingly targeting bigger payouts.

Digital channels accounted for bulk of fraud activity. UPI topped list with 12,868 cases, followed by internet banking at 8,657.

Together, they generated more than 21,500 fraud cases in three years, underscoring growing risks accompanying India's digital payments boom.

Cyber frauds alone accounted for 23,580 cases involving more than Rs 166 crore. While numbers have eased in recent years, cyber criminals continue to refine their playbook, keeping banks and customers on edge.

RTI reply, furnished by SBI's fraud prevention and monitoring department, also spotlighted frauds from within banking ranks.

SBI acknowledged it does not maintain separate data on victims of so-called "digital arrest" scams or money lost through such frauds, despite mounting concern over the rapidly spreading con.

Tiger toll now 36 in MP; five poachers held in Chhindwara

P.Naveen@timesofindia.com

Bhopal: Madhya Pradesh forest officials detained five tribal men from Chhindwara district for allegedly poaching a tigress in Narsinghpur's Kareli area and trying to sell its body parts for occult rituals. The latest killing took the state's tiger toll this year to 36 so far.

Foresters suspect the tigress, a sub-adult female, was poached around 15 days ago. Forensic examination was underway to establish the animal's age and identity. Investigators suspect the big cat was trapped using a clutch wire, a deadly snare often laid along the tiger corridor, before being killed and butchered for body parts.

The suspects, all from Jamunapani in Chhindwara's Harrai area, had extracted the big cat's skin, skull, whiskers, and claws and were trying to strike a Rs 20 lakh deal. The forest department launched a covert operation based on intelligence inputs and sent decoy buyers to establish contact with the poachers.

Chhindwara DFO Swaroop Dixit said the suspects were being questioned. Officials said one of the accused was a repeat offender and had earlier been booked in a tiger poaching case. Officials were trying to understand how the suspects tracked the tiger's movement in Kareli, an area where tiger presence is relatively rare. Investigators suspect the group may have monitored the animal's movement or received prior information.

The Chhindwara-Seoni belt has witnessed several tiger killings in recent years, many allegedly linked to superstition spread by sorcerers. Forest officials said awareness campaigns have repeatedly been conducted to counter such myths, but illegal wildlife trade and deep-rooted superstitions continue to fuel poaching in parts of the region.

FILE PHOTO

Foresters suspect the tigress, a sub-adult female, was poached around 15 days ago in Narsinghpur's Kareli area in Chhindwara

MP announces highest ever bounty on tiger poacher wanted through Interpol

Bhopal: The Madhya Pradesh forest department has announced Rs 1 lakh bounty, the highest reward ever, for information on an alleged tiger poacher. Jaiy Tamang alias Pasang Limi, a Nepal-linked wildlife trafficker, is wanted through an Interpol red corner notice. Earlier, the MP high court had rejected his bail plea, **reports P Naveen.** Rewards of Rs 50,000 each have also been declared for two others—Nepal resident Tarke Lama alias Dharke Lama and Bangladesh national Al Haj Md Shafiqul Islam alias Rahman Talukdar—in wildlife poaching cases registered in the state.

Tamang, 47, a resident of Delhi's Majnu Ka Tila, is wanted in a poaching case registered on July 13, 2015. Tamang is wanted by the special tiger strike force for allegedly poaching a radio-collared tiger from the Satpura tiger reserve in Narmadapuram district and for trafficking pangolins from different parts of the state.

India shelters B'desh family of 10 stranded in no-man's land

Jalpaiguri: India stepped in Monday to provide shelter and food to a Bangladeshi family of 10 stranded for days in no-man's land along the border in north Bengal's Jalpaiguri after authorities in the neighbouring country refused to take them back and allegedly had their documents seized,**reports Pinak Priya Bhattacharya**.

The family had originally been pushed back by BSF in the early hours of Saturday following a standoff with BGB, the Bangladesh border force.

Local sources in Jalpaiguri's Sakati border zone alleged that BGB personnel instigated villagers to snatch the family's documents — proof of their Bangladeshi nationality — before forcing them back into no-man's land.

The BGB then announced in the village that the family was of Indian nationality illegally pushed across by BSF. Videos surfaced showing BGB personnel questioning the stranded individuals, who said they had come to the border on their own given the new West Bengal govt's "detect and deport" policy for illegal immigrants — not that they had been pushed by BSF.

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F. No. 19/3/2019 PR
Government of India
Ministry of Finance

Department of Financial Services

2nd Floor, Jeevan Deep Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

Inviting applications for the post of Whole-time Member (Economics) in Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), New Delhi

Applications are invited for the post of Whole-time Member (Economics), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), New Delhi, which has a tenure of period 5 (five) years or up to 62 years of age, whichever is earlier.

The Whole-time Member, PFRDA, shall have an option to receive pay as admissible to an Additional Secretary to the Government of India or a consolidated salary of Rs. 5,00,000 per month without facility of house and car. The particulars of the post and eligibility conditions are given on the Ministry's website **http://financialservices.gov.in** as well as on PFRDA's website **http://www.pfrda.org.in.** The last date and time for receiving the completed applications is **10.07.2026** till **5.30 P.M.** The candidates can apply through offline mode clearly demonstrating eligibility at the address indicated below:

Shri Harkesh Chander,
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Department of Financial Services,
Ministry of Finance, Government of India,
Room No. 1, 2nd Floor, Jeevan Deep Building,
Parliament Street, New Delhi 110001
Tele No.: 011-23748760

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Court dismisses plea of Soren in land case

Sanjay Sahay | TNN

Ranchi: A special PMLA court in Ranchi on Monday rejected a discharge petition filed by Jharkhand chief minister **Hemant Soren** in an ED money laundering case linked to an alleged land scam.

Judge Yogesh Kumar held that the materials on record revealed more than just suspicion and raised a prima facie case against the CM. Hemant had filed the plea in Dec last year.

The judge cited discharge laws to point out that the court is only required to examine whether the materials on record are sufficient for proceeding against the accused, not whether the prosecution will ultimately succeed in proving its case beyond doubt.

The case pertains to allegations that records on 8.83 acres of land in Ranchi's Badgai area were falsified and tampered with by a revenue sub-inspector, Bhanu Pratap Prasad. ED claims Prasad acted in collusion with several people, including the CM.

ED has alleged that Prasad was part of a syndicate involved in acquiring land by manipulating govt records and fabricating documents.

SC aghast that Allahabad HC took 41 yrs to decide appeal

Man Was 28 Yrs Old At Time Of Arrest, Gets Bail At Age 72

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

Singh's appeal stated, 'He is today a grandfather, beset by multiple ailments that attend a man of his years. His appeal languished before the HC for 40 years'

New Delhi: Supreme Court was extremely disappointed on Monday to find that a man — arrested as a 28-year-old in Nov 1983 for shooting dead a person — waited for more than four decades in Allahabad High Court for a decision on his appeal against conviction and life term awarded by a trial court.

A visibly disturbed bench of Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and A S Chandurkar wondered as to what innovative measures could be taken to free the clogged wheels of justice in Allahabad HC, where long and heavy pendency of pleas has constantly fueled filing of appeals in SC for a direction to the HC for expeditious hearing.

On learning that the man was in custody for just three months and had been on bail for nearly 43 years, the bench continued his bail during pendency of his appeal against the high court judgment, which had a gestation period of 41 years.

Justice Mishra asked senior advocate Siddharth Dave and advocate Zoheb Hossain as to what could be done to expedite hearings in the HC to unclog the justice delivery system. Dave said one way was to dismiss all prosecution appeals which have been pending for three decades.

The bench disagreed and said the basics of adjudication do not permit dismissal just because of long pendency and no one knows what harm it would cause to public interest if prosecution appeals were dismissed without giving them an opportunity to address the court.

In the case in hand, a 28-year-old Vijay Singh was convicted for murder in Dec 1985 by a sessions court in Kanpur, two years after he shot dead his brother. He immediately appealed against the trial court verdict before HC, which in a 20-page judgment on Feb 9 this year dismissed his appeal.

Singh's appeal stated, "He is now 72 years old. For over four decades, through youth, middle age, and now old age he has lived under the shadow of that conviction. He is today a grandfather, beset by multiple ailments that attend a man of his years. His criminal appeal languished before the HC for 40 years before being finally heard and dismissed almost summarily."

"This Special Leave Petition is, in the truest sense, his last recourse," he said.

UP cops gun down contract killer

Pathikrit.Chakraborty
@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: A notorious contract killer carrying a bounty of Rs 1.7 lakh was killed in an encounter with UP Police's special task force (STF) in Ayodhya late Saturday night. Bhanu Pratap Singh alias Bablu, 38, was wanted in at least 40 criminal cases, including murder, robbery and extortion, officials said.

Additional director general (law and order) Amitabh Yash said the Prayagraj unit of STF had received inputs that Singh and his associates were planning to execute a major crime in Ayodhya. Acting on the tip-off, an STF team intercepted Singh and his accomplice near a forested stretch between Aamighat tri-junction and Tarapur under Maharajganj police station limits. When signalled to stop, they allegedly sped away, triggering a chase.

Police said the duo veered onto a rough jungle track, where their motorcycle skidded and crashed. They abandoned the bike, took cover behind natural obstacles and opened fire on the STF team. "They fired repeatedly with the intention to kill police personnel," the ADG said, adding that two bullets hit an inspector's bulletproof jacket, saving him from serious injury.

Officers said the accused used an automatic weapon to fire at the police team. In retaliatory firing, Singh sustained bullet injuries, while his associate managed to escape under the cover of darkness.

Among the most serious charges against Singh was his alleged involvement in the Oct 27, 2025 murder of a dairy trader, Prithviraj Yadav, in Azamgarh.

Naga man shot dead in Manipur

Guwahati: A 58-year-old man Naga man was shot dead Monday inside a forest in Manipur's Kangpokpi district when he had gone there to collect firewood. CM Yumnam Khemchand Singh expressed profound anguish over the murder of Chunjanglung Panmei, vowed to have his killers tracked down and pledged assistance for the family of the deceased from Rongmei Naga Village.

With the killing coming at a time of renewed tensions in the state scarred by over three years of ethnic strife, the CM appealed to all communities to maintain peace and harmony, not fall prey to provocations and cooperate with authorities in maintaining law and order. The CM assured all possible support to the bereaved family, a statement from the CM's office said. TNN

SC pulls up man for deserting elderly mom after she transferred her property to him

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: It is natural for parents to expect their children would take care of them in their sunset years but many cases are being reported of the elderly being abandoned after they transfer property to offsprings. In one such case, Supreme Court on Monday gave an earful to a man for deserting his 74-year old widowed mother after she transferred her assets to him and hinted that the property gift deed would be cancelled if she is not taken care of.

A bench of Justices Manmohan and Vijay Bishnoi said that there was no merit in the appeal filed by the son against Telangana HC order which had quashed the gift deed and restored the property to his mother. The court also noted that the son had withdrawn Rs 1.63 crore from her joint account without her consent. The bench said that it was not possible to issue notice on his plea but granted last opportunity to him to repair the relationship and sit with his mother in mediation.

The court said that the facts in the case were very "glaring" and "gross" and his conduct was unbecoming of a son. The bench referred to HC findings which had noted that the son had stopped speaking to his mother and compelled her to leave the house and he was not ready to take her back.

"Look at your conduct. After controlling the assets, you compelled the mother to abandon the house and you are not ready to take her back. Very glaring findings by the High Court. Look what a son has done to his mother. It is very difficult to issue notice in this case," the bench told the son.

The HC in its order had said that it was difficult to accept that a son can justify severing ties with his aged mother over such trivial issues.

"A mother, who makes unparalleled sacrifices in raising her child, cannot be reduced to estrangement and neglect on account of ordinary family disagreements. Such conduct, particularly when it follows immediately after the last transfer of properties and funds, reveals the true intention behind the transactions. The conduct of the son post-transfer is not merely relevant but decisive, it demonstrates that once the properties and funds were secured, the obligation of care was abandoned," the HC had said.

The apex court found no error in HC order but asked him to amicably resolve the issue through mediation. "Take one chance to see if relations can be repaired. She is your mother. Settle the dispute with her and take care of her," the bench told the son.

The tribunal order was upheld by Telangana High Court and the son thereafter moved the Supreme Court.

Three interlinked projects envisaged for Nicobar airport

▶ Continued from page 1

The sources added, "Initial tendering is under way for the airport. Other projects are in the pipeline."

For holistic development of GNI, three interlinked projects besides the airport have been envisaged — International Container Transshipment Port (ICTP), and naval air station, township and power plant. The total cost of all four projects is estimated at Rs 81,000 crore. "The GNI project is even more important due to potentially important hydrocarbon deposits in the sea near the islands," a source said.

Highlighting its strategic importance, the source said the project would grant India ability to sustain its presence, move its assets, support operations and monitor and maintain forward logistics close to its theatre of interest. "The project should have been executed 30 years ago," the sources said, clarifying that the runway at INS Baaz, the Indian naval air station in A&N Islands, will not be part of the GNI project.

The GNI is located only 40 km from the Six Degree Channel astride the sea trade route which extends from Gulf of Aden to the Malacca Straits. Two-thirds of the world's oil and half of world's container traffic pass through this sensitive area. Various regional and extra-regional powers have increased their military and economic presence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). In view of this, the GNI project shall augment India's ability to operate in south-eastern IOR, thereby enhancing its stature as a preferred security partner and as a first responder, the source said.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, BANGALORE - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No. RWF/W/26-27/06 Dated 08.06.2026

E-Tender: On behalf of the President of India, the Dy. Chief Engineer invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** (Works).

Tender No.: W.496/RWF/YNK/1086. **Name of the Work:** Development of Park at East & West Colony of RWF. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 2,74,00,994.20. **EMD:** Rs. 5,48,000.00. **Date of Closing of Tenders:** 29.06.2026 at 15:00 Hrs.

The above Tender details can be viewed on our website **www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in**

Dy. Chief Engineer

DELHI | GMR
Delhi International Airport Limited
Registered Office: New Udaan Bhawan, Opp. Terminal 3, Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi – 110 037, India
CIN NO. U63033DL2006PLC146936
TENDER AMENDMENT ANNOUNCEMENT
The Tender Announcement dated 9th March 2026 by Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), inviting Interested Parties to participate in the competitive bidding process for grant of License to Design, Finance, Develop, Set-up, Operate, Manage and Maintain Food & Beverage Outlets at Terminal 3 (T3) of Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi is being amended. Details of Amendment are as provided in DIAL website: **www.newdelhiairport.in**
Last date for Request for RFP is also extended till 13th June 2026.
For more details, please visit our website: www.newdelhiairport.in
DIAL/240/PREM ASSOCIATES

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
For & on behalf of President of India the General Manager (Engg.), South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach, Kolkata-700043 invites e-tender for the following work: **Tender No.: BR-HQ-KGP-26-27-02, Date: 04.06.2026. Description of the work:** Kharagpur Division– Conversion of existing bridges into Composite girders/Ballasted decks for running of 25T Axle loaded freight trains @ 100Kmph in (a) Bridge No. 69 DN (Span 4x18.3m) in between station Ghatsila-Dhalbhumgarh Bridge No. 94UP (Span 2x 18.3m) in between station Jhargram-Gidhni, (b) Bridge No. 217 UP (Span 9x18.3m) in between station Rajghat-Amarda Road, (c) Bridge No. 235 UP (Span 9x18.3m) in between station Basta-Nuagaon Mayurbhanj Road, (d) Bridge No. 235 DN (Span 9x18.3m) in between station Nuagaon Mayurbhanj Road-Basta, (e)Bridge No. 264UP (Span 9x18.3m) in between station Haldipada-Balasore, (f) Bridge No. 238 UP (Span 3x12.2m) in between station Nuagaon Mayurbhanj Road-Rupsa & Bridge No. 239 UP (Span 2x12.2m+2x18.3m) in between Nuagaon Mayurbhanj Road-Rupsa, (g) Bridge 239 DN (Span 2x12.2m+2x18.3m) in between station Rupsa-Nuagaon Mayurbhanj Road & Bridge No. 258 UP (Span 4x12.2m) in between station Haldipada-Balasore, (h) Bridge No. 217 DN (Span 9x18.3m) in between station Amarda Road-Rajghat & Br. No. 234UP (Span 5x12.2m) in between station Basta-Nuagaon Mayurbhanj Road, (i) Bridge No. 168DN (Span 4x12.2m+2x18.3m) in between station Bakhrabad-Narayangarh & Bridge No. 176 DN (Span 3x12.2m) in between station Belda-Bakhrabad (2nd Call). **Tender Value:** ₹ 125,56,63,525.18. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,51,13,300. **Tender Document Cost:** Nil. **Tender Closing Date, Time:** 17.07.2026 at 11.30 hrs. **Period of Completion:** 24 (Twentyfour) months. Interested Tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description of the tenders and to know the status of this tender so as to submit their bids online. Physical/manual tender for this work will not be accepted. **(PR-289)**

MADHYA PRADESH TOURISM BOARD
NOTICE FOR EMPANELMENT OF AGENCIES
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U75302MP2017NPL043078
6th Floor, Lily Trade Wing, Jahangirabad, Bhopal- 462008, M.P., India
Website: www.tourism.mp.gov.in
EOI No. : 3356 /Adventure/MPTB/2026 **Date : 09 June 2026**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR EMPANELMENT OF ADVENTURE-BASED AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS FOR ORGANIZING VARIOUS ADVENTURE TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN MADHYA PRADESH

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board (MPTB) (here in after referred to as "the Authority") invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible Indian and International agencies,), having proven experience and expertise in organizing adventure tourism activities, for empanelment with MPTB.

Categories & Activities
Agencies may apply for one or more categories/activities based on their expertise :

Category No.	Category	Activities
A	Land-Based Activities	Camping & Adventure Activities; Trekking Events (Long Treks/Short Treks/Sand Trek/Night Trek); Cycling Events & Bike Tours; Jeep Tours & Mud Rally; Heritage Walks & Heritage Runs (including tourism-related runs); 4x4 Motor Sports & Off-road Mud Jeep Trails; Zip Lines & High Ropes Courses; Rock Climbing & Hiking; Bungee Jumping; Marathon Events; Other land-based adventure tourism activities
B	Water-Based Activities	Kayaking & Rafting; River Cruising; Jet Ski & Banana Ride; Zorbing; Speed Boat & Shikara Ride; Paddle Boating & Canoeing; Sailing & Wind Surfing; Other water-based tourism activities
C	Air-Based Activities	Hot Air Ballooning; Paragliding & Paramotoring; Parasailing; Aero Sports Events; Skydiving Festivals; Air Safaris; Helicopter Joy Rides; Other air-based adventure activities

(Applicants may apply for one or multiple categories based on their experience and capability.) The detailed Terms & Conditions can be downloaded from the website : **www.mptenders.gov.in** and **https://www.tourism.mp.gov.in.** For any further information, please contact +91-7089121967 or via email at **paaf.mptb@mp.gov.in. The last date and time for EOI submission is 15th July, 2026, up to 03:00 PM.**

M.P. Madhyam/126267/2026 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Regd. Office: Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited No.148, Embassy Square, Ground Floor, Infantry Road, Bangalore - 560001, CIN No: U41000KA2016SGC097260 Ph: 080-22256688/22289966 Fax: 080-22264477
Email: mail@vjnl.in, Website: www.vjnl.in
Office of the Executive Engineer, Yettinahole Project Division No.4, Madhugiri, Tumkur Dist-572132
Ph: 08137-282112 Email-eeyetmadhugiri4@gmail.com
SI NO:EE/VJNL/YHP/Div-No.4/Madhugiri/NIT- 08/2026-27 Date: 04.06.2026 & NIT- 09/2026-27 Date: 04.06.2026

Tender Notification: (Through KPP-Portal)

On Behalf of Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigama Limited, Bangalore the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.4, Madhugiri, Karnataka invites two tender document system for the works, **1) Construction Of RCC Box Under NH-48 (Old NH-4) By Box Pushing Technique At Ch: 26+895 Km (NH LHS Ch: 40+395 Km & NH RHS Ch: 40+425 Km) To Provide Crossing Of Gravity Main Of TG Halli And Ramanagara Gravity Feeder Under Yettinahole Project (Indent No. VJNL/2025-26/BR/WORK_INDENT493/CALL-2) & 2) Construction Of RCC Box Under NH-75 (Old NH-48) By Box Pushing Technique At Ch:40+762 Km (NH Ch: 35+65 Km) To Provide Crossing Of Gravity Main Of TG Halli And Ramanagara Gravity Feeder Under Yettinahole Project. (Indent No. VJNL/2025-26/BR/WORK_INDENT495/CALL-2)** for an amount **Rs.490.69 & Rs.454.42 Lakhs** and **3) Consultancy services for Survey and investigation, preparation of designs, drawings, estimates and DTPs for the proposed Vaderahalli storage reservoir near Vaderahalli village, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District and allied works with required structures to draw water from Vaderahalli to Lakkenahalli Balancing reservoir or to intake forebay of Kolar Package 1 pump house etc., including land acquisition and R & R proposals under Yettinahole project (Indent No.VJNL/2026-27/SE0214)** for an amount **Rs.97.25 on "Percentage basis"** through KPP-Portal. The contractor's can download and submit the completed bid documents through KPP-procurement website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** as per the dates mentioned below.

Sl. No	Calendar of Events	Dates for NIT-08/26-27 date: 04.06.2026	Dates for NIT-09/26-27 date: 04.06.2026
a.	The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document, i.e. the Tender Schedules, bid documents and other documents in the web site **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** on payment of transaction fee (non- refundable) from	05.06.2026 to 16.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM	05.06.2026 to 16.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM
b.	The Last date of Submission of completed Tender Documents through KPP-portal.	16.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM	16.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM
c.	Last date & time for tender Queries / Clarifications	11.06.2026 up to 3.00 PM	11.06.2026 up to 3.00 PM
d.	Pre-Bid Meeting at office of the **Chief Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project, Zone, Tumakuru.**	11.06.2026 at 11.00 AM	-
e.	Date & Time of Opening of **Technical by Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.4, Madhugiri.**	18.06.2026 at 11.00 AM	18.06.2026 at 11.00 AM
f.	Date & Time of Opening of **Financial bid by Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.4, Madhugiri.**	After Approval of Technical Bid	After Approval of Technical Bid

The undersigned reserves all rights to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
VJNL, YHP, Division No.4, Madhugiri

DIPR/TUM/RO-43/26-27/Oysters

4001/125/2627
idco ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (CIVIL)
IDCO, IDCO TOWER, BHUBANESWAR
Bid Identification No. Civil/EST-15 /2026-27
TCN No. 15542, dt. 01.06.2026
NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
1. Name of the Work : Construction of Block level Stadium (without Indoor Hall), Kodala Block under Ganjam District
2. Value of the Work : Rs. 11.38 Crore
3. Period of completion 09 (Nine) Calendar Months
4. Availability of tender online for Bidding :
I. Start Date: 18:00 Hours of dt. 11.06.2026.
II. End date: 15:00 .Hours of dt. 25.06.2026.
III. Opening date: 16.00 Hours of dt. 25.06.2026.
Tender details can be seen from the e-procurement portal. **www.tendersorissa.gov.in.** Corrigendum or Addendum if any will not be published in newspapers and can be seen in **e-procurement portal** as well as in **IDCO website.**
Sd/-
Chief General Manager(Civil) IDCO
Bhubaneswar
OIPR - 4001/4075/1/26-27/0039

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India BOI
Head Office, IT (Governance & Excellence) Department, Star House-3, PNB-BOI Tower, C-29, G Block, 10th Floor, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051.
E-mail: Headoffice.ITProc@bankofindia.bank.in
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR
End-to-End Procurement, Implementation, Management and Support of CKYC Application Ref No: BOI:HO:IT(G&E):CKYC:0547, Dated 06.06.2026
GeM Bid No. GEM/2026/B/7631620, Dated 06.06.2026
The captioned RFP is available on Bank's corporate website www.bankofindia.bank.in under "Tender" section & GeM portal.
Subsequent changes if any, will henceforth be uploaded on the Bank's website & GeM portal.
The last date of bid submission: 29.06.2026

Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation Limited
"SARAS SANKUL" J. L. N. MARG, JAIPUR – 302017, Ph. No. 2702501-08, Direct: 0141-2710209
Website : www.sarasmilkfed.rajasthan.gov.in, E-Mail :pur-rcdf-rj@nic.in
No. :- RCDF/Pur/F.(RM)/2026/ 11169-207 Dated :- 03/06/2026
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
Single Stage Two Parts unconditional online e-Tenders/e-Bids are invited by Rajasthan Co-Operative Dairy Federation Ltd., Jaipur for the procurement of "CATTLE FEED RAW MATERIALS ITEMS (DORB, RICE BRAN, DOMC, GWAR KORMA, MAIZE, RICE DDGS, MOLASSES, SOYABEAN MEAL AND BY PASS FAT) (UBN No. CDF2627GLOB00344)" as per bid from eligible bonafide manufacturers/dealers/suppliers/traders as per details given in the respective bid document. The Complete Bidding Documents can be visited and downloaded from our website **www.sarasmilkfed.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** and **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.** E-Bids shall be submitted only on **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.**
Raj.Samwad/C/26/4370 General Manager (Purchase)

BENGALURU SMART INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED B-Smile
Office of the Project Engineer-01,
No. 30/1, 3rd Floor, Thimmaiah Road, Miller Tank Bund Area, Vasanthnagara, Bengaluru - 560052.
No: B-SMILE/PE-01/TEND/05/2026-27 Date: 08-06-2026
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)
The Project Engineer-01, B-SMILE, GBA, Bengaluru invites Proposals from registered Firms / Agencies / Individuals for **Project Management Consultancy (PMC) and Proof Checking** who have relevant experience in doing similar nature of works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Project Management Consultancy (PMC) and Proof Checking of Comprehensive Development of Outer Ring Road from Silk Board Junction to K.R. Puram Metro Station to Global Standards **(Package-01: Silk Board Junction to Iblur Junction). Amount Put to Tender (in Rs.): 69,42,162/- (Excluding GST), EMD Amount (in Rs.): 89,500/-**
2	Project Management Consultancy (PMC) and Proof Checking of Comprehensive Development of Outer Ring Road from Silk Board Junction to K.R. Puram Metro Station to Global Standards **(Package-02: Iblur Junction to K.R. Puram Metro Station). Amount Put to Tender (in Rs.): 1,56,81,052/- (Excluding GST), EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,57,000/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 10-06-2026, 16.30 Hours onwards. 2)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting: **17-06-2026 at 16.00 Hours. 3)** Last Date & Time for Receipt of Tenders: **24-06-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)** Date and Time of Opening of Technical Bid: **25-06-2026 at 11.30 Hours. 5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated after obtaining Approval for Technical Evaluation.** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Project Engineer-01, B-SMILE, GBA.

कार्यालय नगर निगम जयपुर
(पण्डित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय भवन, लाल कोठी, टोंक रोड, जयपुर-15)
क्रमांक :- जसज/2026/107 दिनांक: 04.06.2026
ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या:- 04/2026-27
केन्द्र एवं राज्य सरकार के सभी विभागों में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों एवं नगर निगम जयपुर में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से अधिशाषी अभियन्ता (प्रोजेक्ट-प्रथम) द्वारा "Tender For Procurement Of Services For Operation Of Door-To-Door Household Waste Collection, Segregation And Transportation Of Collected Household Waste Up-To Secondary Collection Point Through Real Time Monitoring Using Geo-Fencing, VTS & RFID Based Monitoring System Along With Mechanized Road Sweeping In Mansarovar Zone Of Nagar Nigam Jaipur For A Period Of 03 Years Further Extendable Up-To 02 Years." कार्य की ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। कार्य की अनुमानित लागत, टेण्डर बेचे जाने तथा प्राप्त करने की तारीख, टेण्डर शर्त आदि सम्पूर्ण विवरण नगर निगम जयपुर की वेबसाईट **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.jaipurmc.org & eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखी जा सकती है।
NIT No. 04/2026-27 UBN No.:-JMC2627SLOB00197
अधिशाषी अभियन्ता (प्रो.-प्रथम)
नगर निगम जयपुर
राज.संवाद/सी/26/4344

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯವರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, YELLAPUR DIVISION, YELLAPUR
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ನಂ.: 08419-261273 Email: dcfyellapur@gmail.com
ಎ3/Etender/03/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04-06-2026
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
2026-27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: CAMPA, K-Shore, KFDF, DDF ಯೋಜನೆ ಅಡಿ ನೆಡುತೋಪು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ) (ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-2 ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿ) ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ರೂ: 142675800 ಅನುದಾನದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12-06-2026 ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಚೇರಿ ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರದವರನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ (08419-261273) ಅಥವಾ ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ (dcfyellapur@gmail.com)ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.
DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/191/26-27 dt. 06.06.2026
ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Chief Engineer (Cauvery Headworks), 8th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-09.
IFT NO.BWSSB/CE(CH)TE/TA-01/108/142/2026-27 Date: 06.06.2026
INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Through KPP portal only)
BWSSB, invites tenders in two stage tender system from eligible contractors for the work of **up-gradation of the existing SCADA and PLC system at IV Stage phase-II pumping Station at T.K. Halli under jurisdiction of EE (K-O&M)-1 Division.**
Amount put to tender: **Rs.396.15 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs.6.00 Lakhs**
Last date and time for submission of tender document is: **08-07-2026 upto 15:00 hours.** Tender will be opened on **10-07-2026 at 16:00 hours.** The details regarding the tender and participation in the kpp portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the signed office during working hours.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Cauvery Headworks).
DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO1043/26-27

Oppn raises fairness concerns, plans letter to CJI on SIR

Subodh.Ghildiyal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Amid a consensus in the opposition bloc that Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was being used to "influence electoral outcomes", INDIA bloc on Monday decided to write to the Chief Justice of India to raise its concerns about the fairness of the elections taking place in the country.

Finalising a common agenda of political action at its first meeting since the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the opposition alliance demanded that education minister Dharmendra Pradhan resign for "betrayal of lakhs of students who have appeared in NEET and CBSE examinations". Crucially, the bloc demanded that PM Narendra Modi call an all-party meeting to discuss "worsening economic crisis, intensifying price rise, growing unemployment, atrocities, and farmers issues".

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge addressed a joint press conference after the meeting of the bloc.

The decision to raise SIR and associated issues at the topmost level of grievance redressal, the CJI, came after all the political parties in the meeting expressed concern that SIR was leading to "mass disenfranchisement" and tampering with electoral rolls, which have raised serious question marks on fairness of elections.

It was alleged that SIR, which started with the Bihar assembly polls, influenced elections' outcome, as it has done in West Bengal. With former Bengal CM and TMC leader Mamata Banerjee present, Samajwadi Party's Akhilesh Yadav and RJD's Tejashwi Yadav said the Bengal election was not lost but "stolen", while Congress's Rahul Gandhi said elections were being manipulated in favour of BJP.

IANS

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi during the INDIA bloc meeting on Monday

Flagging of the NEET-CBSE row as the most important issue suggests that the opposition will further up the ante on the matter in the coming days, currently limited to protests by Congress's youth organisations, coupled with Rahul's vocal interventions.

Interestingly, National Conference's Omar Abdullah, CPI(ML)'s Dipankar Bhattacharya, Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Uddhav Thackeray and NCP (SP)'s Supriya Sule mentioned the emergence of "Cockroach Janta Party (CJP)" overnight with a apparently massive following online as an important development and advocated it should be supported.

Assam gets 17-member cabinet

Prabin.Kalita@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma unveiled Monday portfolios for 12 newly inducted ministers, completing his first cabinet expansion and cementing his hold over the state's political wheelhouse. The 17-member NDA ministry comprises 14 BJP ministers, including Sarma, along with 2 from AGP and 1 from BPF.

Sarma retained home and political departments, both PWD wings, power, information and public relations, printing and stationery, besides "any other department not allotted" — keeping the command posts firmly under his watch. Wishing his colleagues, he posted on X: "...I am confident that working together with dedication and commitment, we will continue to serve the people of Assam and further accelerate the journey of progress and prosperity of our state."

Portfolio allocation revealed a carefully calibrated political matrix: centralised authority at the top, economic and welfare engines in trusted hands, and coalition allies accommodated through region-specific assignments. Jayanta Mallabaruah took charge of finance, environment and mines, while Bimal Borah was handed industries and Act East Policy, forming govt's economic flank.

Bengal govt restores general consent to CBI after 7+ yrs

CBI Needn't Seek Nod To Enter State

Debashis.Konar@timesofindia.com

Kolkata: The Bengal govt has restored general consent to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), announced state cabinet minister Dilip Ghosh on Monday. Now, CBI will not be required to seek permission every time it enters the state, an official said. The restoration will allow the agency to investigate cases against employees of the central govt, central PSUs and private individuals in Bengal.

General consent is withdrawn allowing case-specific probes to prevent frivolous cases, the official added.

The previous Trinamool govt had withdrawn general consent in Nov 2018—requiring the agency to seek case-specific permission from the state govt. The withdrawal had come soon after the Andhra Pradesh govt barred CBI from entering the state.

As per the home department's notification, the state govt has allowed CBI to investigate cases not only against central employees but also against private individuals "acting separately or in conjunction with central govt employees or PSUs." CBI, however, would still require permission before investigating charges against a state govt employee.

The official said with restoration of general consent, if a central or PSU employee amasses disproportionate wealth with help from a private individual, CBI can investigate and arrest both the employee and the private person.

Report by 5pm today, CID tells Abhishek

Dwaipayan.Ghosh & Srishti Lakhotia | TNN

Kolkata: Bengal CID Monday served a third notice to Trinamool's Abhishek Banerjee, directing him to appear before it by 5 pm on Tuesday.

The agency said it found little ground to grant further time to the Diamond Harbour MP, who appealed for more time.

The notice was issued hours after Abhishek failed to show up before CID in the assembly signature forgery case, citing prior engagements in Delhi.

The Trinamool general secretary, along with former CM Mamata Banerjee, attended the opposition INDIA bloc meeting in Delhi on Monday.

It was the second time Abhishek avoided the CID appearance in the case. He sent a letter to the CID, stating a case was ongoing in the Calcutta HC, with a hearing slated for this week. Additionally, he mentioned, he was currently in Delhi. In the letter, Abhishek requested for additional time.

TMC-run Kol municipal body dissolved, commissioner appointed administrator

Saikat.Ray @timesofindia.com

Kolkata: West Bengal govt on Monday dissolved Trinamool-run Kolkata municipal corporation (KMC) board and appointed municipal commissioner Smita Pandey as the administrator of the civic body, formalising the authority she has effectively exercised since the assembly election results were declared on May 4.

All the councillors and committee members have been directed to vacate their offices.

The move comes amid a churn within the civic body after Firhad Hakim resigned as mayor on Friday, citing Bengal's "changed political situation". Trinamool spokesperson Kunal Ghosh had earlier said the BJP govt had rendered the civic body "ineffective".

Trinamool, which won the 2021 KMC election by an overwhelming majority, briefly explored nominating a new mayor, but the plan did not materialise because most party councillors reportedly expressed their inability to attend a meeting convened by KMC chairperson Mala Roy on Sunday.

KMC authorities waited till late afternoon on Monday for news from the Trinamool municipal party on whether it wanted to field a candidate to succeed Hakim as mayor, a source said.

A survey by TOI at KMC headquarters on Monday revealed that most Trinamool councillors were absent. The few who were spotted had turned up to know whether govt had dissolved the board. A section of Trinamool councillors expressed surprise over the TMC brass' silence during such a crisis and a shift from the earlier stand of nominating a successor whenever a party functionary stepped down from the post of mayor.

In recent weeks, KMC has seen heightened disruption, including a failed attempt to convene the House. The corporation's buildings and assessment department issued notices to properties linked to TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and carried out demolition drives against properties linked to Faiz Ahmed, Raju Naskar and Sona Pappu, all considered close to the former governing party. The arrests of multiple councillors on extortion charges further unsettled the KMC set-up.

INDIA allies question Cong on DMK betrayal

Julie.Mariappan@timesofindia.com

Chennai: INDIA bloc allies VCK and CPI(ML) on Monday criticised Congress over its alliance strategy in the recent assembly elections in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal. DMK sources told TOI the party would join the INDIA bloc only if Congress is not part of it. "We will not be a signatory of the letter to CJI on SIR," a senior DMK politician said.

Sources in New Delhi said the manner in which Congress severed its ties with DMK came up at Monday's INDIA bloc meeting. "Some members didn't mince words when criticising Congress for the way it dealt with DMK. Left parties also raised objections over Congress attacking CPM in Kerala, where the Left was accused of having a deal with BJP by politicians, including Rahul Gandhi," sources said.

(With inputs from Ambika Pandit in New Delhi)

Falta's 'Pushpa', on run for 2 weeks, held at Nepal border

Dwaipayan Ghosh, Roshan Gupta & Monotosh Chakraborty | TNN

Kolkata/Siliguri: The Bengal Special Task Force (STF) and Darjeeling Police on Sunday nabbed Trinamool's Jahangir Khan, who was the party's Falta candidate, from Panitanki Bazar on the India-Nepal border around 2.30 pm on Sunday.

Khan, who earned the sobriquet "Pushpa" ahead of the state elections, had been on the run for two weeks, with multiple criminal charges and at least seven FIRs for murder, extortion and electoral malpractice, slapped against him.

Khan was initially holed up in a hotel and then he moved to a house located close to the international border, a senior STF officer said.

Another officer said he planned to move to Nepal with his wife and son and even enrol his son in a school there. Khan had reportedly already sneaked into Nepal alone and had rented a house in Kathmandu, where he remained hidden for a couple of days. He travelled back to India through the Indo-Nepalese border at Panitanki in Darjeeling district on Sunday morning, when he was arrested, the officer said.

"The accused went completely off the grid to evade electronic surveillance," an officer told TOI. "Khan switched off his phones, changed his SIMs and deleted his WhatsApp account as he fled Falta. But he continued to maintain contact with a few trusted associates and family members through alternative channels. By tracking those numbers and mapping his travel patterns, our teams tracked him down."

A statement issued by the Bengal STF said Khan, wanted in several cases, registered at the Falta police station, was arrested around 2.30 pm on Sunday. He was taken to the Phansidewa police station, where a large contingent of state police and central forces was deployed. He was subsequently produced in a local court and was directed to be brought to Diamond Harbour police district.

TMC rebellion set to reshape numbers in Parliament

▶ Continued from page 1

TMC has 28 Lok Sabha MPs. A breakaway faction needs at least 19 MPs to cross the two-thirds mark. The party has witnessed defections before — from Ajit Panja's exit in 2001 to Adhikari's in 2021 — but never a revolt of this scale.

Rebels chose to unfurl their banner on the same day Banerjee pressed opposition parties to unite against BJP at an INDIA bloc meeting in Delhi. Sources said she accused BJP of attempts to split her party.

The TMC rebellion could reshape parliamentary arithmetic. NDA currently holds 292 Lok Sabha seats, comfortably above the majority mark of 272 but short of a two-thirds majority. Support from a large TMC breakaway group would push the alliance beyond the 300-seat mark and strengthen its hands on contentious legislation.

The timing sharpened the drama. Rebels moved while party chief Mamata Banerjee and nephew Abhishek Banerjee — who's an MP and TMC national general secretary — were in New Delhi for an INDIA bloc meeting. Their effort to prevent a two-to-one split appeared to be faltering. By Monday evening, only eight MPs — Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Saugata Roy, Kalyan Banerjee, Mala Roy, Mahua Moitra, Kirti Azad, Saayoni Ghosh and Abhishek — were firmly seen in Mamata's camp, though insiders described at least two as "fence-sitters".

A legal fight is already brewing. Ghosh Dastidar signed the letter as TMC's "chief whip", though she was removed and replaced by Kalyan Banerjee more than two weeks ago. The MP said she's still chief whip because the party removed her while Parliament was not in session.

The Mamata-Abhishek camp rejected that claim. Azad pointed to her May 27 letter resigning from all party posts and challenged rebel numbers.

"Only 13 Lok Sabha MPs attended the meeting with BJP seniors. Where are the 20 MPs? Where is the letter they signed?" Azad asked. Ghosh Dastidar shot back: "Eighteen MPs signed the letter physically. Two signed it online." Rebel MP Sharmila Sarkar also insisted the count stood at 20.

Whether TMC's rebels have crossed the two-thirds Rubicon remains disputed. Jaynagar MP Pratima Mandal, believed to be among two online signatories along with actor-MP Rachana Banerjee, stopped short of openly backing the rebellion. "I stand with the people of my constituency who elected me for five years. We were one TMC family. But none of the MPs discussed this with us or informed us of the reason for splitting," she said.

Sources said many rebel MPs, particularly Muslim MPs, remain reluctant to formally join BJP. Most are believed to be seeking assurances on future electoral tickets and enhanced security before taking their next step.

Ghosh Dastidar framed the move as governance. "We are accountable to people. We need to complete the pending work. We want to be a part of NDA also for the sake of national security and country's progress," she said. "We have only informed the speaker. Let him decide. We will then decide."

Sources said Birla was away on an official tour.

(With inputs from Kumar Rakesh and Ambika Pandit in New Delhi)

MSME TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Process and Product Development Centre
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Hands-on Cloud training for Career Growth
Amazon Web Services (AWS)
Content: Cloud Computing Fundamentals, AWS Overview (IaaS, PaaS, SaaS), AWS Management Console, Amazon EC2 & Instance Management, Amazon S3 & Storage Services, Amazon EBS & Storage Classes, Amazon VPC, Subnets & Networking, Route Tables & Security Groups, Linux Hosting & IAM Roles, AWS Cost Optimization, AWS Pricing, Free Tier & Cost Explorer, Advanced AWS Services & Career Opportunities.
For Registration
Date: 10th - 19th June 2026 | Time: 06.00 P.M - 09.00 P.M
Fees: 5,600/- (Inclusive of GST) | Duration: (8 Days) (only Mon - Fri)
Contact: 9600776611, 8667359360, 7358887633
Visit us at:www.ppdcagra.dcmsme.gov.in
E- Certificate will be Awarded
Disclaimer: Be aware of fraudulent activities. We never ask to make payment on any personal account.

Ministry Of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
MSME - TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE - (CDGI)
An Autonomous body under Ministry of MSME, Govt of India
A1/1 Industrial Area, Firozabad 283203. ww.cdgiindia.net
2 DAYS GOVT. CERTIFICATE
NEW LABOUR CODES
(WITH CENTRAL RULES & LATEST UPDATES)
Course Duration 2 Days (ONLINE) Date: 13 & 14 June 2026 Time : 05:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Course Content: Introduction to Labour Codes, Code on Wages, 2019, Industrial Relations Code, 2020, Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, 2020, Code on Social Security, 2020, Compliance & Legal Risk Management, ESG, Labour Rights & Labour Codes, Practical HR & Payroll Workshop, Implementation Roadmap.. More
Training is useful for Jobs, Professionals & Education
Fees : Rs.3,540/- (Study material in soft copy shall be provided)
FEE PAYMENT ONLY IN MSME TDC CDGI ACCOUNT
Coordinator: 8603769900, 9953920498, 8168984069
Government of India certificate will be awarded

MSME TECHNOLOGY CENTRE
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, GOVT. OF INDIA
AI & CHATGPT TRAINING
AI Tools & Chat GPT
Course Duration 2 Days (ONLINE) Date: 13 & 14 June 2026 Time : 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Course Content: AI Tools & Chat GPT, Modern prompting technique (R-C-O-F), Generative engine optimization basics for your website, Visual storytelling, Data driven marketing, Its advantages and limitations, Tips for writing effective Chat GPT prompts, Mastering social media content creation with chat GPT, Creating Epic YouTube content with Chat GPT, How to use chat GPT for keyword research, Creating Email marketing framework, Using Chat GPT for engaging Instagram reels, Using AIDA framework for advertising, Using chat GPT ethically.. More Topics
Training is useful for Jobs, Professionals & Business
Fees : Rs.3,540/- (Study material in soft copy shall be provided)
Coordinator: 9818676612, 9818528498, 9686564246
Government of India certificate will be awarded

CORRIGENDUM
With reference to the L&T AGM advertisement published on 6 June 2026, it is clarified that, in the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft programme, L&T executed its scope in a contracted role for Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), which is the design authority for the project.
We regret any unintended ambiguity and confusion caused.
Larsen & Toubro Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the public that our client M/s. SGMMC LLP having its registered office at Bengaluru, Karnataka represented by its Partner Mr. Gopal Byre Gowda states that he has lost the original title document morefully described below on pertaining to the property bearing Survey No. 212 measuring 01 acre 36 guntas (plus 04 guntas of karab) situated at Dalasagere Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. Further, a complaint regarding the loss of original title documents has been lodged at the Kolar City Police Unit on 02.06.2026 vide Lost Report No.2234202/2026. If it is found by any person/s, kindly hand over the same to the below-mentioned address.
Description of the lost original document
S.N | Description of the Documents
1 | Sale deed dated 08.02.2019 registered as Document No.HSK-1-10881/2018-19 of Book-1 and stored in CD No.HSKD688 at the office of Sub-registrar, Hoskote
S T Prashantha Kumar, Advocate & Senior Partner,
Mali Pavan Gowda Advocate & G-Head,
Fox Mandal & Associates
Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road, Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India
Ph: +91 80 30554100 Dtd: 09.06.2026

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम (श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt of India)
चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, पी.जी.आई.एम.ई.आर और आर्थर अस्पताल
Medical College, PGIMSR & Model Hospital
21 राजाजीनगर औद्यो - ics/Rajajinagar,Bengaluru-10
Phone 080-23013290,23528801
Email. esicmh.gen@gmail.com
GE-09/3/2024-GENERAL BRANCHGE-09/3/2024-GENERAL BRANCH(702632)
ORDER
Dr. Shivakumar Babu M.G., Chief Medical Officer (NFSG), Employee ID: 119330, who worked at the Employees' State Insurance Corporation Medical College, PGIMSR & Medical Hospital, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, is deemed to have retired from service with effect from 31.07.2024 as per the instruction of competent authority, ESIC Headquarters office, New Delhi.
He is hereby advised to submit all requisite pension-related papers and prescribed proformas to the competent authority within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.
Despite repeated communications and several reminders issued earlier, the said official has not submitted the required documents to this office for processing of pensionary benefits. Accordingly, this may be treated as the final notice in this regard.
In the event of failure to comply within the stipulated period, any delay in processing pensionary benefits shall be attributed solely to the Medical Officer, and not to the Administration Branch of ESIC MC PGIMSR & MH, Rajajinagar, Bangalore.*
Sd/- Dean (I/c)

GLIDERS INDIA LIMITED
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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
संख्या : CF-16/ Manpower/ GA दिनांक: 08.06.2026
मुख्यालय: ग्लाइडर्स इंडिया लिमिटेड, जी.टी रोड, कानपुर (उ.प्र.) - 208013 Headquater: Gliders India Limited. G.T. Road, Kanpur (U.P.) - 208013 Phone/ फोन : (+ 91) 512-2984548 Fax/फैक्स : (+ 91) 512-2988487
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SD/-
AGM/Admin

Government of Karnataka
KEA
KARNATAKA EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY
Sampige Road, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560 012.
Phone: 080-23460460 (5 lines), Fax: 080-23461576
e-mail: keauthority-ka@nic.in, Website: http://kea.kar.nic.in
No. ED/KEA/R.S./15/2026 Date: 05-06-2026
NOTE
Direct recruitment of 3395 Residual Parent Cadre and 596 Local Cadre Police Constables (Civil) posts in Karnataka State Police Department
The Karnataka State Police department has requested Karnataka Examinations Authority to conduct Competitive Examination for direct recruitment of 3395 Residual Parent Cadre (RPC) and 596 Local Cadre Police Constable (Civil) posts vacant in Police Department in the State of Karnataka, in accordance with the procedure and eligibility for direct recruitment to the posts of Police Constable cadre as revised in the Karnataka State Police Clerical Employees Services (Recruitment) Rules, 2004 and its (Amendment) Rules, 2014, 2016, 2020, 2021 and Government Order No. HD 44 PPA 2026 dated 13.04.2026 and as per the prevailing recruitment rules.
In this regard, Karnataka Examinations Authority has invited applications online from eligible candidates for direct recruitment of above mentioned Police Constable (Civil) posts separately. Eligible candidates must apply online and appear for the Competitive Examination conducted by KEA.
a. Post Details:

Sl. No	Post	Number of posts in Residual Parent Cadre					Total Number of Posts
		Men	Women	Men In-Service	Women In-Service	Transgender Candidates	
1.	Police Constable (Civil)	2266	755	257	82	35	3395
		Number of posts in Local Cadre					
2.	Police Constable (Civil)	398	133	46	14	5	596

Detailed information on the classification of cadre, category, and division wise posts has been published on the Websites of KEA and the Police Department.
b. Pay Scale: ₹. 37500-900-39300-1000-43300-1125-47800-1250-52800-1375-58300 1500-64300-1650-74200-1900-76100
c. Pension facility: National Pension Scheme (NPS) facility will be applicable as per Government Order No.: FD (SPL) 04 PET 2005, Dated: 31.03.2006.
d. Educational Qualification: PUC or equivalent qualification.
e. Schedule to apply online:

Commencement of Entry of Application Online	08-06-2026
Last Date to Enter Application details online	03-07-2026
Last date to pay the fees	04-07-2026

f. Competitive Examination Time Table:

Date / Day	Cadre	Timings	Subject	Total Questions	Total Marks	Hour / Duration
02.08.2026 SUNDAY	Residual Parent Cadre	10.30 am to 12.00 Noon	General studies covering General Knowledge, Science, Geography, History, the Constitution of India, the National Independence Movement, Mental Ability and Moral Education.	100	100	1 ½ Hours (90 Minutes)
02.08.2026 SUNDAY	Local Cadre	2.30 pm to 4.00 pm		100	100	1 ½ Hours (90 Minutes)

Candidate has to mandatorily score at least 30 marks in the Competitive Examination for eligibility in the said Competitive Examination as per the Cadre and Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2020.
NEGATIVE EVALUATION:
• Each question in the question papers of the Competitive Examination has 04 alternative answers, from which the candidate has to select only one correct answer. For every wrong answer, 1/4th 0.25 marks will be deducted.
• A fifth option/circle is provided on the OMR answer sheet. After the last bell, candidates will be given an additional five minutes to shade the fifth option/circle for any questions they choose not to answer. If a question is left completely blank and no option/circle is shaded, 0.25 marks will be deducted for that question.
NOTE:
a. Candidates should refer to the detailed notification published on the Website of KEA and Police Department for information and instructions such as age limit, pension facility, educational qualification, fee payment, competitive examination procedure, physical fitness test, endurance test, eligibility conditions, recruitment procedure etc.
b. All recruitment processes are subject to the orders and prevailing rules issued/to be issued by the Government or Competent Authorities from time to time.
Sd/- (H. Prasanna, I.A.S.)
Executive Director
DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO1045/2026-27

POLICY TO PRACTICE:

12 YEARS OF PROGRESS UNDER PM-LED INITIATIVES

Delivering development | Empowering citizens | Building a new Uttar Pradesh

Over the past decade, Uttar Pradesh has witnessed significant development through a range of initiatives led by PM Narendra Modi, aimed at improving infrastructure, healthcare, sanitation, housing, financial inclusion, digital access and social welfare. These efforts have contributed to tangible improvements in the quality of life across both urban and rural communities.

Enhanced sanitation and hygiene measures have promoted cleaner surroundings and greater public health awareness. Expanded healthcare facilities and improved access to medical services have strengthened healthcare delivery, while housing initiatives have provided safer and more dignified living conditions, supported by access to electricity, clean water and sanitation.

Financial inclusion has broadened access to banking and digital payment systems, empowering citizens and encouraging economic participation. Investments in roads, highways and transport networks have improved connectivity and supported regional growth. Digital governance has made public services more accessible and transparent, while initiatives for farmers, women and youth have strengthened livelihoods, skills and entrepreneurship. Together, these efforts continue to support inclusive and sustainable development across Uttar Pradesh.

Revitalising sacred spaces: The economic & cultural transformation of Kashi and Ayodhya

KASHI VISHWANATH CORRIDOR REDEVELOPMENT
Kashi Vishwanath Corridor has transformed the pilgrim experience, seamlessly connecting faith, heritage and modern infrastructure

AYODHYA DHAM
Recognised as one of the most visible redevelopment projects under PM Narendra Modi's tenure

AI-GENERATED INFOGRAPHICS

PM Gati Shakti: Uttar Pradesh's expressway revolution

Uttar Pradesh is building a massive expressway network through Central-State synergy to modernise logistics, bolster national defense, and stimulate regional economies

MAJOR EXPRESSWAY PROJECTS

PURVANCHAL & BUNDELKHAND EXPRESSWAYS
Two massive pillars of connectivity linking the state's eastern and southern regions

GANGA & GORAKHPUR LINK EXPRESSWAYS
Critical expansions designed to integrate major urban centres and facilitate rapid transit

STRATEGIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

LOGISTICS & DEFENCE INTEGRATION
Accelerates industrial movement and provides vital connectivity for the national defense corridor

REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH
Stimulates trade and investment specifically within the Eastern and Bundelkhand regions

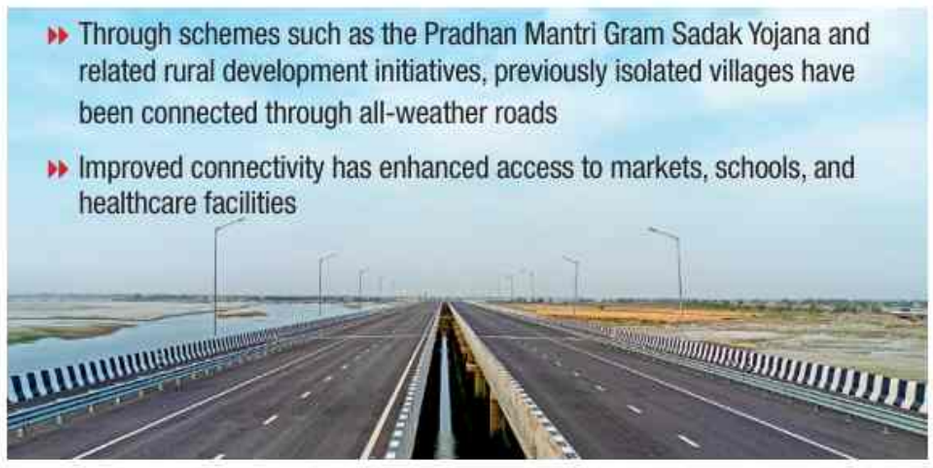
HOUSING & BASIC AMENITIES
Drives development in residential sectors and improves access to essential community services

PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA (PMAY)
A ROOF OVER EVERY HEAD

- UP is the first state to mandatorily provide a residential patta to every beneficiary of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana, who did not have land to build a house
- PMAY scheme has significantly improved housing conditions for economically weaker sections and rural households

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
BRIDGING THE RURAL-URBAN DIVIDE

- Through schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and related rural development initiatives, previously isolated villages have been connected through all-weather roads
- Improved connectivity has enhanced access to markets, schools, and healthcare facilities



AYUSHMAN BHARAT PM JAN AROGYA YOJANA (AB-PMJAY)
ROBUST HEALTHCARE

- Uttar Pradesh is first in the country in making Ayushman Bharat cards
- Under the scheme, Ayushman cards have been issued to 5.76 crore beneficiaries
- Under the Ayushman Yojana, a total to 6,391 hospitals have been empanelled, which is the highest in the entire country

PICS: DIPR, UP GOVT

PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI (PM-KISAN)
FARMER LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

- Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, eligible farmers receive ₹6,000 annually through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, over ₹99 thousand crore has been transferred in 22 equal installments to 3.12 crore farmers

JAL JEEVAN MISSION - HAR GHAR JAL
WATER FOR EVERY HOME

- The mission aims to provide tap water to every rural household
- So far, 100% households in 35,746 villages have been provided with functional household tap connections
- Out of these, more than 26,000 villages have achieved 'Har Ghar Jal' status

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

Scheme	Achievement in Uttar Pradesh
Ayushman Bharat	5.76 crore cards issued
PM-KISAN	3 crore+ farmers benefited
Jal Jeevan Mission	26,000+ villages have achieved 'Har Ghar Jal' status
Ujjwala Yojana	Millions of LPG connections provided
PM Awas Yojana	Large-scale housing assistance to rural and urban poor
Rural Connectivity	Thousands of villages linked by improved road networks

UP: Driving India's self-reliance through industrial synergy

Advancing 'Make in India' through the Defence Corridor and ODOP

UP Defence Industrial Corridor (UP DIC)

STRATEGIC MANUFACTURING DEFENCE NODES

AGRA
CHITRAKOOT
ALIGARH
LUCKNOW
KANPUR
JHANSI

MSME PROMOTION
Leverages central policies to empower small and medium enterprises across the state

DRIVING NATIONAL SELF-RELIANCE
This project is a flagship initiative linked directly to India's goals for defense independence

INTEGRATION WITH TOURISM
Growth is augmented by parallel religious tourism and cultural projects

RASHTRIYA KRISHI VIKAS YOJANA (RKVY)
AGRI-GROWTH REIMAGINED

- Farmers in Uttar Pradesh have benefited from PM-KISAN, crop insurance initiatives, irrigation projects, and agricultural infrastructure schemes
- New agricultural programmes continue to focus on increasing productivity and farmers' incomes

PRADHAN MANTRI UJJWALA YOJANA (PMUY)
EMPOWERING RURAL KITCHENS

- The scheme provides free LPG connections to women from economically weaker households
- Over 1.86 crore families received free LPG connections under PM Ujjwala Yojana, along with two free cylinders annually on Holi and Diwali
- Ujjwala has helped reduce dependence on traditional cooking fuels and improved indoor air quality

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES
SHE LEADS THE WAY

- Schemes such as Ujjwala Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, and Lakhpati Didi have been actively promoted in Uttar Pradesh
- These programmes focus on education, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, and health of women

Transforming sanitation: The Swachh Bharat Mission in Uttar Pradesh

Swachh Bharat Mission transformed sanitation in Uttar Pradesh through improved cleanliness, toilet access and behavioural change

DISTRICT-WIDE ODF STATUS
Districts across the state have successfully achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) declarations

MASSIVE RURAL SANITATION COVERAGE
Expanded sanitation services have significantly reached deep into rural communities

MULTI-LEVEL CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGNS
Sustained efforts improved hygiene standards in both village environments and major cities

MAJOR MISSION ACHIEVEMENTS

- Under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural), Uttar Pradesh led the nation by constructing 2.74 crore toilets in Phase-1, while Phase-2 has delivered over 57.25 lakh individual toilets and 59,165 community toilets so far

READER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Are small caps ready to overtake mid caps? Fund managers think so

Sanket.Dhanorkar@timesofindia.com

For much of the past decade, mid-cap stocks have been the undisputed stars of India's stock market. Investors who chose mid caps over small caps were rewarded with better returns and, often, lower risk. But a subtle shift in market leadership may be underway.

Fund Managers Bet On Small Caps

The change is already visible in flexi-cap fund portfolios. While these funds still maintain a bias towards large-cap stocks, many have steadily increased their exposure to small-cap ones.

The average small-cap allocation in flexi-cap funds has risen from 12.7% in March 2023 to 19.3% in April 2026. Over this period, 25 such funds expanded their small-cap exposure; 11 of them specifically reduced mid-cap holdings while raising allocations to small caps. In contrast, average mid-cap exposure has largely remained in the 18-20% range, with 16 funds trimming their allocations over the past three years.

Navi Flexi Cap Fund has been one of the most aggressive movers, raising its small-cap allocation by over 29 percentage points and reducing mid-cap exposure. Among the larger options, ICICI Prudential Flexi Cap Fund raised small-cap allocation from 8.3% to 27.8% over the past three years, while cutting mid-cap exposure by nearly nine percentage points. Rajat Chandak, Senior Fund Manager, ICICI Prudential AMC, says this wasn't a deliberate market-cap call. "We simply found more attractive opportunities in the small-cap space. Many unique businesses are available only in this segment."

The Wealth Company Mutual Fund has also taken a sizeable small-cap position in its recently launched flexi-cap offering. Aparna Shanker, CIO-Equity at the fund house, says the current risk-reward equation appears most favourable in small caps, followed by large caps and then mid caps. "We prefer to be agile with market-cap allocations. Small caps currently offer better opportunities for generating alpha on a risk-adjusted basis."

What Changed?

The outperformance of mid caps over the past decade was not accidental. Mid-sized companies gradually matured, improving earnings quality, governance standards and balance-sheet strength. Investors rewarded them through higher valuations, leading to a sharp re-rating of the segment.

Small caps, on the other hand, remained a mixed bag. The universe contained many cyclical businesses, weaker balance sheets and companies with inconsistent earnings records. Governance concerns were also more common. As a result, while small-cap stocks rallied strongly after 2020, much of the gain came from valuation expansion rather than earnings growth.

In other words, mid-cap returns were backed by stronger earnings growth, while small-cap performance relied more on investor optimism.

That may now be changing. While the small-cap universe still contains weaker businesses, a growing number of companies appear fundamentally stronger than they were during previous market cycles. Research by Bajaj Finserv AMC suggests that small-cap companies have undergone a meaningful transformation in recent years. Net debt-to-equity ratios have fallen sharply from 0.52 times in 2018-19 to near-zero levels in 2025-26. Return on equity has improved from 9% to 12%.

The improvement may not look dramatic, but the direction is significant. More companies are funding growth through internal cash flows rather than debt, leading to healthier balance sheets and more sustainable profitability. This is very different from earlier small-cap cycles, when excessive leverage often magnified downturns.

Besides, the correction witnessed across broader markets over the past two years has also removed many of the excesses from small caps. At first glance, small caps still appear expensive. The Nifty Smallcap 250 trades at 33.4 times trailing earnings, as against 28.6 times for the Nifty Midcap 150. However, earnings in the small-cap universe tend to be volatile, making price-to-earnings ratios less reliable. Price-to-book value offers a more accurate reading of valuations. On this metric, the small-cap index trades at a softer multiple of 3.7 times compared to the mid-cap index's 4.6 times.

Regulatory Challenge

Another reason fund managers are becoming cautious on mid caps lies in regulation. Under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)'s rules, mid-cap funds must invest at least 65% of their assets in companies ranked 101st to 250th by market capitalisation. This leaves fund managers fishing in a relatively small pond of just 150 stocks. With massive inflows chasing the same set of companies, valuations in many mid-cap names have become stretched.

Small caps offer a much larger investment universe. Companies ranked outside the top 250 qualify as small caps, giving fund managers far greater flexibility to identify opportunities and generate alpha. As Dinesh Balachandran, head, investments, at SBI Funds Management, observes, too much money is chasing too few mid caps, creating valuation excesses.

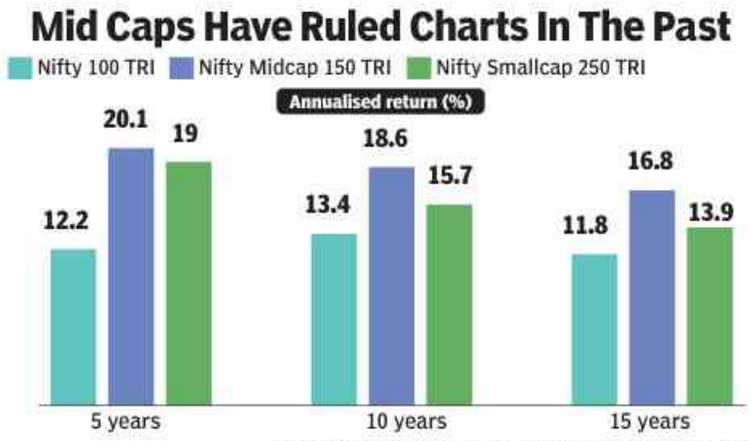
The pressure is beginning to show. Active mid-cap funds increasingly find it hard to beat their benchmarks. Data from Sebi-registered analyst StatLane shows mid-cap funds are the only major equity category to have underperformed their benchmark indices over the past three, five and 10 years. Small-cap funds, meanwhile, have continued to generate excess returns over their benchmarks. Balachandran says small caps, thus, offer greater scope for stock-picking. "I can very easily be negative on small caps and still find 10 small-cap companies I like."

Proceed With Caution

None of this means investors should rush headlong into small caps. The opportunity set is improving, but it remains highly selective. The gap between high-quality and low-quality small-cap companies has widened considerably. As Shanker points out, earnings growth still needs to catch up before another broad valuation re-rating can occur.

Small caps also have significantly more volatility. Data from FundsIndia shows that since 2004, the BSE Sensex has spent 33% of trading days more than 10% below its previous peak. The Nifty Midcap 100 has spent 48% of days in a similar drawdown, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 has spent 64%. The difference becomes even starker during deeper corrections. Small caps have spent nearly 37% of trading days more than 30% below their peak levels, compared with just 10% for mid-caps. That is not merely a statistical detail. It determines whether investors can stay invested when markets turn volatile.

Mid Caps Have Ruled Charts In The Past



Source: FundsIndia; data as on 30 April 2026; TRI: Ttotal return index

Several Flexi-Cap Funds Have Increased Small-Cap Exposure

Fund	Small-cap allocation Mar 2023 (%)	Small-cap allocation Apr 2026 (%)	Change (in percentage points)
Navi Flexi Cap Fund	12.2	41.5	+29.24
Samco Flexi Cap Fund	10.9	33.1	+22.20
ICICI Prudential Flexicap Fund	8.3	27.8	+19.44
Bank of India Flexi Cap Fund	14.3	27.7	+13.34
Invesco India Flexi Cap Fund	7.4	20.6	+13.15
Union Flexi Cap Fund	10.8	23.9	+13.07
Bandhan Flexi Cap Fund	4.9	15.3	+10.39
HSBC Flexi Cap Fund	14.6	24.4	+9.75
WhiteOak Capital Flexi Cap Fund	22.5	32.0	+9.48
Shriram Flexi Cap Fund	11.2	19.7	+8.52

Source: Value Research

Now, your claim can dent insurer CEO pay

Preeti.Kulkarni@timesofindia.com

Very soon, your insurance companies' chief executive officers (CEO) could well break into a sweat if their subordinates unfairly reject your claims. Under rising public pressure over claim rejections and other complaints, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) recently linked the remuneration of insurer CEOs and top management to how effectively they serve their customers, besides other financial parameters. These include claim responsiveness and grievance redressal, which affect individual policyholders. For instance, under 'claim responsiveness', insurers must declare the proportion of claims settled (in full, in part, repudiated or rejected or closed) within 15 days, 30 days, 60 days, and so on.

The Rationale

"Today, there is a trust deficit in the insurance industry. The focus should be on customers first and then shareholders, whereas shareholder interests currently tend to dominate. So, in principle, CEO KPIs (key performance indicators) should be aligned more closely with customer outcomes. In that context, this is a good move by the regulator," says Vighnesh Shahane, former MD and CEO, Ageas Federal Life Insurance.

Irdai had, in May 2024, issued a master circular on corporate governance, prescribing some of these rules for determining CEO pay. Its current circular differs from the existing guidelines in that the parameters were broader and insurers had greater flexibility earlier. "The new circular specifies parameters, like financial ratios, product performance, fraud-control measures, claim responsiveness, and so on. The framework has moved from regulatory visibility to public transparency," says industry veteran Nilesh Sathe.

The Flip Side

Not everyone believes more regulations will always work in policyholders' favour. "The objective is that policyholders should ultimately benefit. The real question is whether this will actually happen," according to Sathe, also a former member of Irdai.

For instance, can a CEO realistically be given a target that complaints must fall by a certain percentage? "There will always be situations where claims have to be rejected, say, in cases involving fraud, impersonation or other genuine concerns. Should the company avoid investigating such cases only to keep the claim rejection numbers low? Certainly a big 'no'," adds Sathe.

"Also, the policyholder is unlikely to understand what such ratios signify," says a senior industry executive who did not wish to be named. Instead, the customer experience depends on product design, distribution quality and servicing capabilities.

"Insurer boards are now obliged to more explicitly link key management persons' (KMP) compensation to policyholder outcomes and disclose the prescribed objective self-assessments. However, it would be utopian to expect immediate revolutionary shifts in service levels or fairness in service engagements," says Thomas Devasia, insurance and reinsurance expert, and former member, non-life, Irdai.

Plug Loopholes

Even as the insurance industry cries 'micromanagement' and 'over-prescription' that will add to the compliance burden, independent experts feel the circular, in fact, does not touch upon certain aspects that need greater supervision. "On grievances, the Irdai has not attempted anything significantly new. One of the biggest issues being discussed today is mis-selling, but there is silence on it," says a former Irdai member who spoke on the condition that he would not be named. The effectiveness of new regulations will finally be determined by implementation.

New CEO pay rules: Promises & limitations

The new rules
Irdai has linked CEO remuneration to multiple metrics, including customer-centric ones, such as claims, grievances and product performance.

When?
Irdai issued the circular on May 25, 2026.

The purpose?
To align top executives' incentives more closely with policyholder outcomes and reduce trust deficit in the insurance sector.

Who will be impacted?
Insurance CEOs and senior management will see greater compliance burden. However, greater customer centricity may benefit policyholders.

How will it help policyholders?
The objective is to incentivise insurers to focus more on speedy, fair claim payouts and complaint resolution, among other metrics.

What are the limitations?
- Parameters are too technical for policyholders to understand.
- No direct, unambiguous measures to curb mis-selling.
- Irdai may not have the bandwidth to track implementation.

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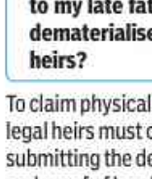
ASK THE EXPERTS

I was allotted a flat in Sept 2023 and registered it in March 2026. I plan to sell it this year and use the proceeds to buy another flat due for completion in 2028. Will it attract capital gains tax? Can I claim an exemption? — *Vaidyanathan S*

You will have to pay the 12.5% long-term capital gains tax on property, plus surcharge and cess. Properties acquired on or after 23 July 2024 are not eligible for indexation. As your allotment was before that date, you have two options: 20% with indexation versus 12.5% without indexation. Compare both methods and pick whichever is lower. Your situation also fits for exemption under Section 54 of the I-T Act as you're selling a house and reinvesting the gains to buy another within the three-year construction window from the date of sale. This relief is revoked if you sell the new home within three years of purchase/completion, and it is capped at ₹10 crore. Engage a CA/tax consultant for details and exact computation.



Rushabh Desai, Founder, Rupee With Rushabh Investment Services

I recently found several bonds and share certificates in physical form belonging to my late father. How can I get them dematerialised and transferred to the legal heirs? — *Jamshed Lashkari*

To claim physical shares or bonds of a deceased holder, legal heirs must complete the transmission process by submitting the death certificate, PAN, KYC documents, and proof of legal heirship (such as a will, probate, succession certificate, or indemnity) to the company or its registrar and transfer agent (RTA). If there are multiple legal heirs, no-objection certificates (NOCs) from other heirs may also be required, depending on the value of the holding and the company's procedures. If the securities have remained unclaimed, they may have been transferred to the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA). If so, the heirs must first complete the separate IEPFA claim process to recover them. The claimants may also need to furnish bank details, specimen signatures, and other supporting documents for verification. After transmission, the securities can be dematerialised by opening a demat account and submitting a dematerialisation request form.

Vikash Jain
Co-founder, Share Samadhan

Please send your queries to *toiwealthplus@timesofindia.com*, mentioning your full name and city of residence.

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An investor education and awareness initiative of Nippon India Mutual Fund.

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Nippon India Mutual Fund, MF/022/95/1

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

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A thought for today

To achieve great things, two things are needed; a plan, and not quite enough time

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

How To Be Tankful

Iran war hots up again. Here's how to make a policy that can insulate India better from energy shocks

A two-week ceasefire, that stretched to two months, may have lulled us into believing the worst was over. But fresh strikes between Israel and Iran have again exposed the fragility of West Asia and global energy security. Oil has ticked up, and it might pinch our pockets again. This is a risk we have to live with, because alternatives – EVs, and biofuels like ethanol and compressed biogas – aren't ready yet. Yes, all our petrol is blended with 20% ethanol, but note how controversial it is, for a reason.

Most of our cars and bikes made over the past 15 years were designed for only a 10% blend. Outside Delhi and its neighbourhood, even older vehicles are widely used. So, regardless of how much ethanol India can make, we, as consumers, aren't ready for it. Contrast this with Brazil, where any day now, govt is expected to increase mandatory ethanol blending from 30% to 32%. It's not a problem there, because the vast majority of Brazil's vehicles have been flex-fuel since 2003. They can deal with any ethanol blend, from 0-100%.

Brazil could do this because, in 2003, EVs were still in the future. So, its automakers' bet on flex-fuel systems, and the ethanol industry's investments in capacity, paid off. Will the same bets work in India now, when electric vehicles are becoming popular? Last fiscal, 4.5% of all cars sold in India were electric. What if rising fuel prices raise their share to double digits this year? If the future is electric, is an ethanol push worthwhile, especially when it requires heavily subsidised fertilisers? And what about farmers? They're getting good rates for sugarcane and corn to make ethanol today, but what will they do when demand for petrol-ethanol blends starts tapering? Biogas is another option, but current capacity is negligible. How many years will industry take to scale up, and substitute imported CNG?

That's why making India's energy policy today is like hitting a moving target, but it has to be done. The main lesson from this war is clear – we have to reduce dependence on imported hydrocarbons. Making fertilisers with coal, instead of imported gas, is doable, as China has shown. Similarly, turning organic waste into biogas has no downsides. How we power our vehicles tomorrow is the tricky part. This can't be left to bureaucrats. Govt should consult industry and researchers to make a long-term plan, and then implement it rapidly.

Big Salary Hikes? Yup

In bad times, some jobs/businesses thrive: lawyers, arms-makers. Chaos dividend is real

This is going to break your heart – assuming you are one of the vast majority, which has only seen a modest, and that's putting it kindly, salary increase. Across law firms, increments are expected to be in the 10-20% range this year. Yes, yes, this story is not India only. The profession's boomtime is being felt worldwide. Because, unlike lesser mortals, lawyers profit from chaos. IPOs and M&As are going strong anyway. Then every conflict zone, sanctions regime, tariff dispute creates new compliance requirements, and contract renegotiations. Enter the guys in dark suits who talk billable hours.

No prizes for guessing who else is doing great: arms manufacturers. Although, their highs are in an altogether different league. Global defence market's projected to grow from $2.75tn in 2026 to $4.26tn in 2035. This, however, is a pre-Feb-28 forecast. The picture's become rosier, or should we say bloodier, since. Nothing says good fortune like a $12.5bn F-35 contract when war's hurting everyone else's wallet. Bombs go down, earnings go up. That's a special gig.

There's profit to be made from the closing of Hormuz Strait too. An oil producer with supply sitting safely somewhere else, really gets his jollies from war's chokepoint. Asset managers, cybersecurity firms, even private intelligence groups are some of the others revelling in heightened uncertainties. The more chaotic the geopolitical landscape, the more govts and corporations pay lavishly for someone, anyone, to hold their hands, in the company of confident PowerPoints and a very large invoice. Some of this "consultation" is basically a protection racket, but with better branding. The special thing about doomsday profiteers is that none of these industries *cause* catastrophe (although, this can be debatable in some cases). They can claim to be helping, while posting record profits doing it. Their un-self-critical motto could be what 'Mother Courage' says in the Brecht masterpiece: "I won't let you spoil my war for me. Destroys the weak, does it? Well, what does peace do for'em, huh? War feeds its people better."

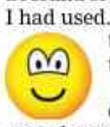
Who stole my refund?

A surprising villain's revealed in the final reel

Saurabh.Sinha@timesofindia.com

Choose your villains wisely. King Con, more often than not, is someone you least expect it to be. A bit like the avuncular Ashok Kumar in *Jewel Thief*. While travelling is a great learning experience, this pearl of wisdom dawned on me by the better half's inability to do so.

Last Dec, I called my credit card concierge to use my stockpiled points, for booking a domestic air ticket for her. A helpful person on the other end of the line gave us some flight options, and we chose one. But when the airline we had selected saw mass flight cancellations that month, we cancelled her Dec 7 ticket, two days before she was to travel, and started seeking a refund of what I had paid for the ticket, plus reversal of the credit card points I had used. For months, the card helpline played a recorded message, saying that if the call was about refunds for cancelled flights of x airline, the same would reflect shortly.



As *annus horribilis* 2026 unfolded and the West Asia war started on Feb 28, chasing this refund fell low on my priority list. Until I teased a senior official of the multi-billion-and-strengthening-dollar airline, about withholding a few thousand of my free-fall rupee. Saying this simply wasn't possible, the very next day the official sent me a factsheet of how the airline had issued the refund to an online travel agency (OTA), used by the card company to make the booking, on Dec 5 itself – the day we made the cancellation! Shocked, I contacted the OTA, which sheepishly admitted that, yes, it had been just sitting on my money, interest-free for nearly six months.

Wondering how many more PLUs were out there, with pending refunds that the OTA was hoping we would forget about, so that it could pocket the same, I excitedly broke the good news to my better half. That was a tactical error.

"So, have you got the money," she asked. "No, but now I at least know who has it," I replied, putting on a brave face. When the OTA finally refunded my money, I felt bad for the airline. It had suffered like Jameel Jamali in *Dhurandhar*, who, at the movie's very end, turns out not to have been the villain we had assumed him to be. And to the revealed villain, I say, "*Et tu*, OTA!"

Markets Buy Musk's Sci-Fi

With SpaceX IPO, Wall Street has mistaken interplanetary ambition for cash flow. The business plan has been jettisoned for an extraordinary reading list. Financial gravity no longer applies

Krishnan Ranganathan

Valuing equities is usually an exercise in bounded delusion. Analysts forecast unit sales, model software subscriptions, and adjust discount rates until a preferred valuation acquires the appearance of science. But even by those forgiving standards, SpaceX presents a novelty: How exactly is one meant to discount the future cash flows of a million-person colony on Mars?

This is the epistemological crisis SpaceX has unleashed upon the market. Investors are being asked to price a company whose stated mission is to *"extend the light of consciousness to the stars"*. Beneath that cosmic rhetoric sits a corporate troika: Starlink, a functional and profitable satellite communications arm; a space transportation division that routinely burns capital; and a sprawling AI segment that burns even more of it. In the most recent quarter, the picture was stark: Starlink earned $1.19bn in operating profit, the space division lost $662mn, and the AI unit lost about $2.5bn.

The group lost $4.3bn in three months, and has accumulated $37bn in losses since inception. The speculative dream conveniently draws the eye from the mundane problem one rung down – an AI division setting fire to capital at three times the rate the rockets do.

The natural instinct of analysts will be to value these pieces separately, with elaborate sum-of-the-parts models, carefully chosen peer groups, and bespoke discount rates for commercial asteroid mining and lunar tourism. There is also a delicious circularity at the heart of the enterprise. Almost 80% of SpaceX's targeted opportunity lies in "enterprise applications", hardly an untouched frontier. Anthropic, an AI firm with no rockets and no Martian ambitions, already reports an annualised revenue run-rate near $30bn, well above SpaceX's own top line, built entirely on the dull enterprise software that is supposedly SpaceX's destiny.

And the prospectus reveals that Anthropic has agreed to pay SpaceX around $1.25bn a month to rent data-centre capacity through 2029 (with a 90-day cancellation clause) – income SpaceX appears to need precisely to fund the chips and supercomputers it is buying to compete with Anthropic in the first place. The software rival is not merely outperforming the rocket company; it is bankrolling the rocket company's attempt to dethrone it.

Then there is the small matter of physics. Turning the asteroid belt into a business line would require not merely rockets but an entire industrial architecture in space – extraction, processing, transport across distances comically hostile to ordinary commerce. To price asteroid mining into a 2026 equity valuation requires a leap of faith that borders on the theological.

Yet, Wall Street is begging to take that leap. A $1.75tn valuation, on a $75bn raise, underwritten by a 20% compound annual growth rate sustained for two straight

Image: AI

decades, implies revenue expanding roughly 38-fold by 2046 – to something north of $700bn a year, more than any company in history has earned, with not a single rival, recession or law of physics permitted to intervene. It is not a forecast but science fiction.

And what an absurdity the bankers are delivering. At 200,000 words, the SpaceX prospectus is among the more extraordinary documents ever filed with the SEC. Asimov's species preservation, and Heinlein's lunar engineering, sit anchored by a Randian hero – a reading list masquerading as a business plan. Few documents move so effortlessly between apocalyptic grandeur and the standard language of financial distress. "*We do not want humans to have the same fate as dinosaurs*," it notes, alongside the admission that the company may never achieve profitability.

Not that profitability matters when you have an iron grip on governance. Musk's super-voting shares give him near-total control. He cannot be removed without his own consent. Conflicts of interest are not incidental to the structure; they are the structure.

It is also a masterclass in financial engineering. The listing was timed to exploit 'fast entry' – the rule under which a company of sufficient scale joins a benchmark in days rather than after the customary year. Nasdaq obliged, cutting its seasoning window to 15 trading days; FTSE Russell went further, to five days. Only S&P held firm, leaving the loss-making SpaceX barred from the index for at least a year.

The historical parallels are irresistible. The South Sea Company promised exclusive access to the riches of South America; SpaceX promises the entire solar system. When the South Sea bubble burst in 1720, it wiped out £20,000 of Sir Isaac Newton's life savings. The great physicist famously lamented that he could "*calculate the motions of heavenly bodies, but not the madness of the people*".

This time two of the three great index-keepers agreed to write the madness straight into their benchmarks. The investor tracking a Nasdaq or Russell fund will own a piece of the cosmos whether he wanted it or not.

None of this means SpaceX lacks real businesses. Starlink is real. Launch capability is real. Musk's capacity to bend capital, talent, and attention to his purposes is all too real. But none of that resolves the central valuation problem: the more distant and speculative the opportunity, the more discipline investors ought to demand.

That is why this IPO matters. It is a test of whether public markets still distinguish between extraordinary execution and extraordinary storytelling. A company can promise to save the species, industrialise the heavens, and spare humanity the fate of the dinosaurs. Those are grand ambitions. They are not, on their own, cash flows.

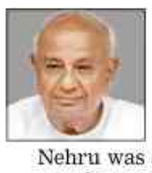
For analysts obliged to price the shares, the traditional toolkit is of limited use. Because when the market is determined to underwrite the cosmos, the only certainty is that financial gravity no longer applies.

The writer is former executive director, Nomura India

'Modi is so successful because he's reflective'

Former prime minister argues that Modi, who's surpassed Nehru's record as longest-serving PM, has been uncompromising in protecting national interest

HD Deve Gowda



Modi is now India's longest-serving, democratically elected prime minister. This surpasses Nehru's record. More importantly, it speaks volumes about how democracy hasn't just survived, but thrived in India.

Nehru was chosen to be the country's first PM in 1947, under extraordinary circumstances, from among several equally talented and dedicated men. It was actually Gandhi's moral command over the masses, which ensured this appointment. Nehru then carried both Gandhi's blessings and the halo of the freedom movement, into the first general election in 1952.

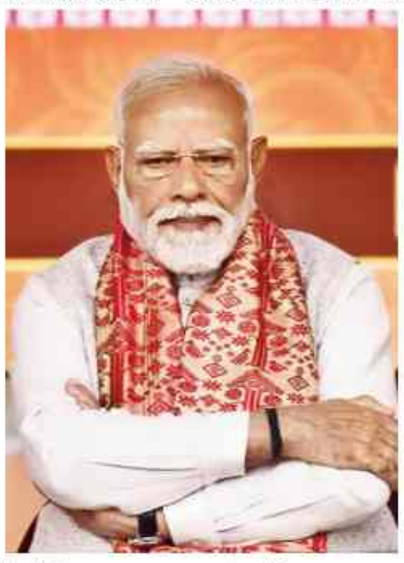
At that time, Congress party was a monopoly. It faced no political competition. Although 53 political parties contested the general election, their presence and influence were minuscule. From there, to the time Modi was catapulted to the PM's office for the first time in 2014, and the third time in 2024, India became a very different nation. Almost unrecognisable in terms of size, diversity, and economy.

It is very tempting, although not exactly prudent, to say that it was easier to be elected PM in 1952 than in 2014 or 2024. Even by the time I became PM in 1996, the circumstances as well as political parameters and competition had totally shifted. The nation had become more questioning, more engaging, more mature.

There was no glowing halo to be claimed for PMs outside the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty. Others had no privilege, pedigree, or patronage available to be used as a springboard. In the case of Modi, and also myself, we did not even have the social and cultural capital that many other PMs have enjoyed.

I did not last long, my tenure was only about 11 months. And I wonder by what blessings Modi continues to be at the top with no signs of exhaustion, neither in him, nor in the people who have elected him. His stamina and his endurance in office are so distinctive.

Let us look at some interesting statistics that illustrate the enormity of changes since Nehru's time. In terms of simple political competition, when the 1952 polls took place, there were, to repeat, just 53 parties in the fray, whereas Modi contended with 2,593 in 2024. The number of voters in Nehru's time was 17cr, by 2014 it was 83cr. India's population, which was 34cr in 1952, today stands at 146cr-plus.



Another aspect that has fascinated me is that Nehru's cabinet didn't really reflect the community, cultural, caste diversity of India. Even when Nehru was in his third and final term as PM, the cabinet remained filled with mostly upper caste men. Nehru had rejected the Kaka Kelkar Commission report, which had attempted to provide reservation to the depressed and backward classes.

The cabinet that Modi presides over now is spectacularly diverse. It has 27 OBCs, 10 SCs, and 5 STs. Representation of women, too, has gone up significantly. Modi also sincerely proposed to expand the strength of the Parliament, in April 2026, to give historic representation to women, and make ours a more perfect union. He has already ensured the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill.

India today is a far more noisy and loud democracy, than it was under Nehru. Caste awareness, constitutional rights, civic rights, gender awareness, environmental concerns etc have all exploded to new levels. India under Nehru was mostly illiterate. Plus, people didn't really know what to expect from a democratic govt. It was a new system. Today's citizens, for the good of our nation and democracy, are more educated and enlightened. Nothing slips past their attention.

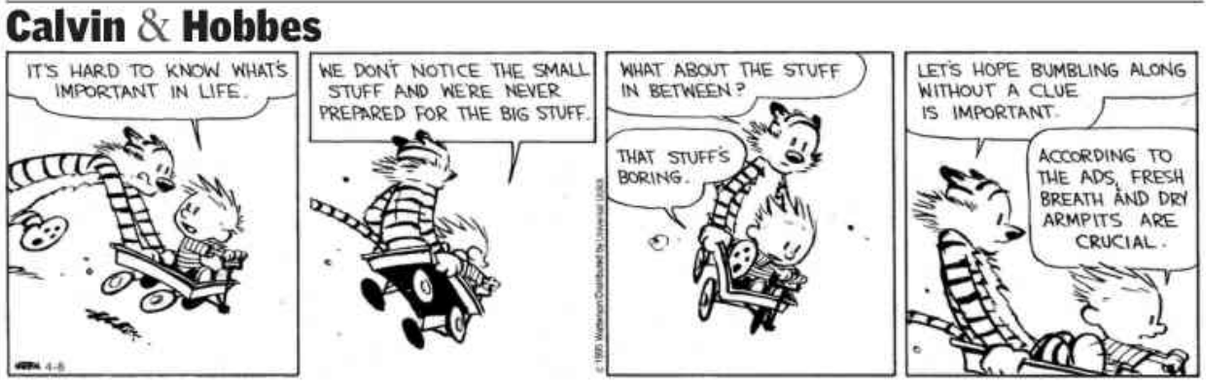
Nehru had to, at most, deal with half a dozen newspapers, but Modi has to endure the scrutiny of millions every single second, because of social media platforms, on which criticism can be unverified, unfair, and also terribly harsh and personal. Plus, he has to contend with round-the-clock criticism, and sometimes hostility, of mainstream press. In Nehru's time, there was no television news.

I congratulate Modi for ensuring that India remains a robust democracy under his charge. His effort to also ensure that India remains the fastest growing economy, his welfarist policies, and his decisiveness during military conflicts also deserve special attention. He has been uncompromising when it comes to the nation's interests.

Modi hasn't just been the executive head, but also the chief counsellor of the nation, who has continuously, and empathetically, engaged with all manners and classes of people. I never miss his *Mann Ki Baat* radio programme. Or his awards list, in which great achievers are scouted and feted. Here too, he has tried to reach more people every square mile. There is no other PM who has used technology like him. All this could not have been done without selfless commitment.

Finally, Modi is successful because he has remained reflective. He has kept himself open to constant scrutiny.

Calvin & Hobbes


IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHAT'S IMPORTANT IN LIFE.
WE DON'T NOTICE THE SMALL STUFF AND WE'RE NEVER PREPARED FOR THE BIG STUFF.
WHAT ABOUT THE STUFF IN BETWEEN?
THAT STUFF'S BORING.
LET'S HOPE BUMBLING ALONG WITHOUT A CLUE IS IMPORTANT.
ACCORDING TO THE ADS, FRESH BREATH AND DRY ARMPITS ARE CRUCIAL.

Sacred*space*

Doublethink means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously and accepting both of them.

George Orwell, 1984

War, Suffering And Search For The Divine

Vipul Anekant

It is profoundly challenging, particularly for those traversing the spiritual path, to maintain equanimity and not be swept away by tumultuous currents. With the emphasis on being *antarmukhi*, turning the gaze inward, as the paramount endeavour, i have tried to forge a philosophical bridge between contemporary cataclysms and the relationship between *jiva* and the Divine.

One possible response is the complete negation of the Divine, exemplified by Western atheism and agnosticism or, in the Indian context, by Bhagat Singh's incisive essay *Why I Am an Atheist*. This stance derives its force from the classical philosophical problem of evil and the existential and rational incompatibility between the existence of an omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, and infinitely benevolent God and the unrelenting reality of prima facie innocent suffering. When schoolchildren in Gaza or elsewhere perish in missile strikes or beneath collapsing buildings, one is compelled to ask: Why does an omniscient and omnipotent God not prevent such suffering and save these children?

A second response emerges from non-theistic or atheistic traditions such as Buddhism, Jainism, and Taoism. These traditions reject a creator God but affirm the law of Karm, which operates like gravity, independent of any external agency. Here, the state of enlightenment is attained through *nirjara*, burning away of karmic *samskaras*, impressions. In this framework, an individual's stream of consciousness is inseparable from its karm; yet, upon complete purification, the individual attains enlightenment.

There is no difference between the Divine and *jiva*, according to Adi Shankaracharya's *Aham Brahmasmi*, "I am Brahmn," and the Sufi mystic Mansur al-Hallaj's ecstatic declaration, "*An-al-Haqq*, I am the Truth." For Shankara, it is like a water drop merging into the ocean; for the Sufi, it is *fana*, absolute spiritual annihilation and the total, distinctionless union of the self with the Divine.

A third major response arises from theistic streams within Vedanta and other traditions, such as Ramanujacharya's *vishishtadvaita* (qualified nondualism), Vallabhacharya's *shuddhadvaita* (pure nondualism), Madhvacharya's *dvaita* (dualism), and Nimbarkacharya's *dvaitadvaita* (dualistic nondualism). Each articulates a distinct ontology of the relationship between *jiva* and the Divine.

THE SPEAKING TREE

In Shankaracharya's Advaita, *Shivalok* is not a distant celestial realm to be attained and enjoyed in duality, but an ever-present, inner state realised within through *nididhyasan*, an immanent reality that transcends the sensory domains of 'seeing' and 'interacting', lying beyond the mundane ambit of mind and senses. Anything less than a complete, nondual merger would remain metaphysically incoherent for Shankara. This merger understandably encounters resistance in the human psyche for at least two reasons. First, our cultural and historical conditioning. Second, a subtle but tenacious ego (*ahamkar*) embedded in the *antahkaran* clings to distinct individuality and a separate entity.

For Shankara, in this apparently real yet ontologically mithya world, any contemporary event appearing as chaos is only seen through the prism of ignorance arising from our inadequate conception of reality under *maya*, illusion.

Ultimately, whether one leans towards nondual merger, eternal communion, or dualistic devotion, the true test lies not in intellectual resolution alone but in the quiet, persistent labour of self-transformation.

The above article is in response to 'Why i Dare To Differ From Adi Shankara' published on June 2

NEET-UG: IAF to transport retest papers

Manash.Gohain
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Education ministry sources confirmed that confidential question paper packets for the June 21 NEET-UG 2026 retest will be airlifted by the Indian Air Force to 18 locations across the country before being transported under security cover to examination centres, while paper setters, moderators and translators have been placed under strict isolation at a secure undisclosed location to prevent any possibility of leaks.

The measures form part of one of the most extensive security operations mounted for a national entrance examination, following the cancellation of the NEET-UG examination conducted on May 3 amid allegations of a paper leak.

The exam was scrapped on May 12 and the matter was subsequently handed over to the CBI for investigation. Since then, multiple central agencies have been involved in designing a security framework aimed at ensuring a leak-free re-examination.

According to govt sources, the IAF will deploy a combination of transport aircraft and Mi-17 helicopters for the same.

Times have changed, premarital sex not moral turpitude, says SC

'It's No Reason To Draw Inferences About Person's Character'

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesofindia.com

'There is no law which prohibits two consenting unmarried adults from having a relationship of their choice...' the bench said

New Delhi: Citing the changing times and acknowledging the reality that premarital sex has become common, Supreme Court has said that being in such a relationship cannot be termed as moral turpitude to draw adverse inferences about a person's character. The authorities must keep in mind this reality and not initiate punitive action on such grounds, it held.

A bench of Justices Manoj Misra and Manmohan came to the rescue of an aspiring police official whose provisional selection in the force was cancelled on the ground that he had been in a physical relationship with a girl, and she had later filed a complaint against him. Though the girl had reached a compromise with him and the matter got settled in Lok Adalat, Telangana govt said the man stood disqualified as he was involved in an offence involving moral turpitude.

Telangana HC also ruled against him, saying he was indicted for an offence involving moral turpitude and the compromise did not amount to a clean acquittal.

Rejecting the plea of the state govt and also the HC's findings, SC quashed the govt decision and paved the way for the man's recruitment in the force. The court made it clear that engaging in premarital sex could not be a reason to bar the petitioner from the force. It pointed out that the victim herself had decided not to step into the witness box to depose against him.

"Besides, authorities would have to be sensitive to the changing times in the context of premarital relationships. Such premarital relationships are common today. Moreover, a physical relationship between two consenting unmarried adults cannot and should not by itself be a ground to draw an adverse impression about the character of the person in that relationship. There is no law which prohibits two consenting unmarried adults from having a relationship of their choice..." the bench said.

It highlighted that in a relationship which spans a considerable period, the court has time and again quashed criminal proceedings initiated by one party against the other on the ground that the victim was lured into a physical relationship under a false promise of marriage because there would be a presumption that such a relationship was based on valid consent.

In this case, the petitioner had truthfully revealed that the complaint had registered a case against him and also told the authority that the case was amicably settled in Lok Adalat. He said that he had been in a consensual relationship which did not result in marriage, and a case was registered after he married another girl.

The state, however, said police are a disciplined force and "the slightest doubt about the character of a candidate emanating from his past antecedents can be the basis to deny appointment".

Rejecting the state's stand, SC said, "Whether the prosecutrix was deceived into entering a relationship, she alone could have disclosed. The public at large cannot tell whether she was deceived. In such circumstances, when the prosecutrix chose not to pursue and had led no evidence, rather had expressed her consent to compound the case, there was no occasion for the respondents (state and others) to read between the lines and draw an adverse inference regarding the character of the appellant."

Unopposed in Guj & Raj, BJP springs RS poll surprise in MP

Cong Cries Foul, Claims 'Bid To Crush Democracy'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

IANS

All four BJP nominees — Raju Shukla, Mansinh Parmar, Mukesh Rathwa and Jitendra Kanjariya — filed papers in Gandhinagar and are headed to unopposed victories after Cong stayed out of race

Bhopal/Jaipur/Gandhinagar: Rajya Sabha elections took sharply different turns across three BJP-governed states Monday, with Madhya Pradesh hurtling into a high-stakes numbers battle after BJP sprang a surprise third candidate, while Rajasthan and Gujarat cruised towards unopposed outcomes.

In MP, Congress nominee Meenakshi Natarajan and BJP's Mahesh Kewat filed nominations, setting up a contest rich in intrigue, arithmetic and allegations before June 18 polling. Congress functionaries closed ranks around Natarajan, while BJP doubled down on its claim that it would sweep all three seats despite lacking enough votes on its own for a clean third victory.

"They speak of women's empowerment, but they have fielded a candidate against our woman nominee despite lacking 8-10 MLAs. They will try to influence MLAs by any means. This is an attempt to crush democracy," MP Congress chief Jitu Patwari alleged.

BJP, with 164 MLAs in 230-member assembly, is comfortably placed to bag two seats. A candidate needs 58 votes to win, leaving Kewat dependent on surplus votes, cross-voting or abstentions.

That prospect has put Congress on red alert. Congress sources said party high command has decided to shift its MLAs to Bengaluru Tuesday to foil any poaching attempt. Former state Congress chief Kantilal Bhuria alleged BJP was offering MLAs Rs 5 crore to Rs 10 crore each to back its candidate, a charge BJP has denied.

Rajasthan, by contrast, saw suspense evaporate. Only three candidates filed nominations for three vacancies, clearing path for an uncontested election. BJP fielded former state president Satish Poonia and Alka Gurjar, while Congress re-nominated sitting MP Neeraj Dangi. Unless scrutiny throws up surprises, all three will be declared elected after nominations are vetted.

Gujarat offered an even clearer picture. All four BJP nominees — Raju Shukla, Mansinh Parmar, Mukesh Rathwa and Jitendra Kanjariya — filed papers in Gandhinagar and are headed to unopposed victories after Congress stayed out of race.

BJP holds 161 seats in the 182-member assembly, making the outcome a foregone conclusion. Once elected, all four will replace outgoing BJP MPs Ram Mokariya, Narhari Amin and Ramila Bara, and Congress MP Shaktisinh Gohil. Congress, short of numbers, will be left without a Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat.

US OFAC vessel catches fire, 24 Indian crew members rescued

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: An unladen oil tanker with 24 Indian crew members caught fire near Oman on Monday afternoon. A shipping ministry official said all the Indian seafarers were safe and have been evacuated with help from Oman, adding that the cause of the fire had not yet been confirmed.

According to sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, the Palau-flagged MT MARIVEX is blacklisted by the US OFAC (Office of Foreign Assets Control) and is not owned by India. It was apparently "disabled" while trying to evade the US blockade.

Opesh Kumar Sharma, a director in shipping ministry, said the ship was well outside Strait of Hormuz when the fire broke out.

According to sources, over the last several days the vessel made four attempts to evade the US blockade. On three occasions, the vessel turned away after repeated warnings by the US navy.

SC draft rules bar all judges from using AI to write judgments

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

'DO NOT USE AI FOR SURVEILLANCE OR PROFILING OF JUDGE, LAWYER, LITIGANT'

The draft report says:

- **No judicial outcome** (including any judgment, order, or finding of fact or law) **shall be reached through algorithmic decision-making alone** or solely based on AI-generated information, data or analysis
- **Bars use of AI in determining flight risk of a person seeking bail** or his eligibility to be enlarged on bail or for determining the credibility of a witness during trial proceedings
- No AI System shall be used for the surveillance or continuous monitoring of judicial officers, advocates, litigants, or any other person within or in connection with court premises or processes, **except as may be specifically authorised by law**
- **No personal data of any person shall be used to train, test or refine any AI System,** without the prior approval of the appropriate authority

New Delhi: To prevent the indiscriminate use of Artificial Intelligence in courts' judicial work, Supreme Court has prepared draft regulations that prohibit use of AI by judges for writing judgments, orders, finding of fact or interpreting laws.

SC's AI Committee headed by Justice P S Narasimha put the draft "Regulations for Use of Artificial Intelligence in Courts, 2026" on the court's website and sought suggestions and comments from all stakeholders and the public by June 20.

Chapter III of the draft regulations prescribe "permissible and prohibited uses" and said every judicial decision-making must be by judges themselves, even though they can take help of AI or its suggestions.

Section 20(b) provides: "No judicial outcome (including any judgment, order, or finding of fact or law) shall be reached through algorithmic decision-making alone or solely based on AI-generated information, data or analysis and the human judicial authority shall be the determinative authority in all adjudicative decisions."

It said accountability of decisions taken by a judicial officer or judge with the assistance of AI shall rest upon the judicial authority concerned. "It shall not be permissible to invoke the outputs of an AI System, the opaqueness of the Black Box system, or the occurrence of hallucination, as a ground for avoiding accountability for a palpably incorrect, illegal or harmful decision."

AI hallucination on case law precedents had been a cause of embarrassment for lawyers and judiciary across jurisdictions, and many such recent instances have been detected with dismay by SC judges.

The draft regulations said the quantum of sentence should be determined by the judge and "any output of an AI System in relation to adjudicative or sentencing questions shall be treated advisory only and shall be subject to independent judicial evaluation". These also bars use of AI in determining flight risk of a person seeking bail or his eligibility to be enlarged on bail or for determining the credibility of a witness during trial proceedings.

To dispel apprehensions on use of AI for surveillance in judiciary, the regulations proposed: "No AI System shall be used for the surveillance or continuous monitoring of judicial officers, advocates, litigants, or any other person within or in connection with court premises or processes, except as may be specifically authorized by applicable law".

The regulations also bar use of AI to predict, profile, or infer the future conduct or behaviour of parties to a litigation, accused persons, witnesses or legal representatives in any court proceedings.

Importantly, the regulations promises to keep AI out of the personal domains, stating, "No personal data of any person shall be used to train, test or refine any AI System, without the prior approval of the appropriate authority and, where applicable, in compliance with applicable data protection law."

'Result delay jeopardised admission'

▶ Continued from page 1

Advocate Raj Kishor Choudhary, appearing for the petitioner student, told the bench that non-declaration of results has seriously prejudiced his academic career as he has already applied for admission to university and failure to declare the result would deprive him of the opportunity to complete the admission process.

In view of the hardships being faced by thousands of students in West Asian countries because of the war, govt had issued a notification of a assessment scheme that specifically provided that marks for cancelled examinations would be determined on the basis of performance in quarterly, half-yearly and pre-board exams.

"The petitioner specifically requested the respondents to either assess the cancelled subjects... in accordance with the assessment scheme, or permit the petitioner to appear in special examinations in terms of Clause 18 the scheme. That despite repeated representations and reminders, no response has been received from the respondents," the petition said.

Drive to demolish illegal religious structures in Jaipur 'breaks' internet

Arpit Basu, Suparna Roy & Prasidhi Sharma | TNN

Arvind Sharma

3,000-strong police contingent was deployed on Jaipur streets to keep potential trouble at bay

Jaipur: A precautionary mobile internet shutdown in Jaipur ahead of a demolition drive targeting two temples, a mosque, a satsang hall and a mazaar caused more turbulence Monday than the civic authorities' decision to raze what it said were illegal structures encroaching on land marked for a road-widening project.

As earthmovers deployed by Jaipur Development Authority pulled down encroachments on Bharu Marg in the state capital's Nandpuri neighbourhood, a 3,000-strong police contingent was deployed on the streets to keep potential trouble at bay.

A portion of a residential building adjacent to a mosque that JDA could not raze during a May 22 drive was also removed. Barricades sealed both ends of the road, while police blocked every lane feeding into it.

Rapid Action Force units took positions on rooftops on both sides. Mobile internet services were restored by 6pm, well before the planned 24-hour shutdown was to end.

The suspension of mobile internet across Jaipur North and Jaipur East police districts from Sunday midnight cost the app-based gig economy an estimated Rs 20 crore, sources said.

The mosque demolition triggered a backlash from the Rajasthan waqf board, which alleged that JDA violated legal procedures by razing a registered waqf property without serving notice. Chairperson Khanu Khan Budhwali said the mosque had been registered with the board since 1986. He accused JDA of targeting it despite a pending court case, with the next hearing scheduled for June 10.

Woman jailed as hubby embraces Islam; man says will fight for her

Sandeep Rai & Sachin Sharma | TNN

Shamli/Meerut: A 30-year-old pharmaceutical trader's conversion to Islam and marriage with a Muslim woman sparked controversy in UP's Shamli after his pictures offering prayers on Eid were widely circulated, drawing attention of Hindu outfits and prompting a case under the anti-conversion law. His wife and her father have now been arrested. Ayush Malik, who goes by Mohammad Ali after his change of faith, said he embraced Islam "willingly" and will fight for his wife.

"Preliminary investigation indicates Ayush came in contact with Chandni Qureshi (his wife) through her brother (Aas Mohammad), who worked at a medical store owned by the Malik family. Ayush's family has alleged that he was trapped and converted with the intention of grabbing the family's properties," SP (Shamli) NP Singh said on Monday.

A case was registered at Shamli Kotwali against Chandni, 30, and eight others, including unidentified persons, Singh added.

Devraj Malik, a prominent businessman and president of Shamli Medicine Traders' Association, said, "I knew about my son's affair and his conversion and was dealing with it privately, trying to convince him to return. But the photographs alerted rightwing groups, which led to the involvement of police."

Refuting the allegations, Ayush told **TOI**: "I had an inclination towards Islam since childhood and by 2012 my faith strengthened. About four years ago, I converted, and around that period I married Chandni. I kept it under wraps due to the prevailing environment and disclosed it to my parents in Feb. I'm a major and so is my wife. Legally, we've full rights to do what we've done. I'll fight for her."

Singh claimed the "police have also found a Pakistan connection".

Chandni, who earlier worked as a physiotherapist, later started working as Ayush's gym trainer, police said, adding that "their relationship grew and culminated in 'nikah' at a mosque in Delhi with her family's consent.

Three arrested over conversion attempt

Pathikrit.Chakraborty
@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: Police arrested three people over the charge of attempting to convert villagers to Christianity by offering financial inducements at a prayer gathering in Ramnagar Khatkari village in UP's Sitapur district on Sunday.

Police took into custody the accused — Manjeet Kumar, Vishnu Kumar, and Nand Kishore Maurya — on a tip-off about the meeting being used as a front for conversion-related activities.

Piyush Singh, SHO of Ramkot, said, "Preliminary inquiry suggests that villagers, especially those from economically weaker sections, were being lured with monetary assistance and support in exchange for adopting another faith."

Police said Vishnu Kumar, a local resident, invited the other two accused to organize the gathering. During the raid, officers seized a copy of the Bible, a large wooden cross, and several books and pamphlets suspected to be linked to conversion activities. Police registered an FIR against the trio and are investigating to determine whether provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act were violated. Police, though, underscored that the investigation is still at an early stage and all claims are being verified.

Police records show that Sitapur has witnessed multiple such cases in recent years.

'Minutes before, there was a blast in ladle furnace bay'

▶ Continued from page 1

The last major accident happened on June 14, 2012, when 16 persons died in a massive explosion and fire at a new oxygen plant in the melting shop. Monday's accident occurred around 4.15 pm, when the ladle carrying around 150 tonnes of liquid steel toppled and fell on the ground following a reported blast.

There were 18 workers in the area at the time. While eight of them were burnt alive, the others managed to come out but at least six of them had suffered severe burns. Fire tenders and plant workers rushed to the spot, but found it difficult to retrieve the charred bodies as the fire raged for nearly 90 minutes.

The injured workers, most of whom had suffered over 70% burns, were rushed to the steel plant hospital. They were later shifted to other hospitals as their condition deteriorated. Sources said around 40 minutes before the fatal explosion, there was a blast and fire in the ladle furnace bay of one of the two steel melting shops. There were no injuries and the fire was immediately controlled. As work resumed, the explosion happened, which caused the ladle to topple and fall down. There was no official statement from plant authorities till late evening, but worker unions accused the management of ignoring maintenance and safety protocols.

PM Narendra Modi expressed grief over the deaths and announced ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh from Prime Minister National Relief Fund to next of kin of each of the deceased, and Rs 50,000 to the injured. CM N Chandrababu Naidu also expressed shock over the accident and directed all departments to coordinate the rescue and relief efforts. Union steel minister H D Kumaraswamy will visit the plant on Tuesday.

A century of Sun records holds clues to its 11yr rhythm

Chethan.Kumar
@timesofindia.com

The findings, based on an analysis of 34,000 images collected since 1907, could aid efforts to predict changes that affect the space environment around Earth

Bengaluru: More than a century of observations from India's historic Kodaikanal Solar Observatory, operated by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, has helped scientists uncover new clues about how the Sun's surface responds to its 11-year activity cycle.

The findings, based on an analysis of 34,000 images collected since 1907, could improve understanding of the processes that drive solar activity and eventually aid efforts to predict changes that affect the space environment around Earth, as per the Department of Science and Technology (DST). IIA is an autonomous institute of DST.

The Sun may appear calm from a distance, but its surface is constantly in motion. Hot material rises from the interior and sinks again, creating a pattern somewhat like boiling water in a pot. These movements produce enormous cellular structures on the solar surface, known as supergranules, which can stretch tens of thousands of kilometres across.

Scientists have long known that these structures are linked to the Sun's magnetic field. What has remained unclear is how they change as the Sun moves through its regular cycle of activity, which peaks roughly every 11 years and is marked by fluctuations in the number of sunspots.

"IIA researchers set out to investigate the connection using the Kodaikanal archive, one of the world's longest continuous records of solar observations. The team examined two features of the Sun's surface network: the widths of the dark lanes that mark the boundaries of supergranules and the brightness of those regions. They then compared these measurements with sunspot activity over nine solar cycles," as per DST.

The results showed a strong connection between the Sun's activity cycle and changes in these surface features. However, the relationship was not uniform across the solar surface.

The strongest correlations appeared in bands about 11° to 22° North and South of the solar equator, regions that are also known to be important for sunspot activity. The study found that different properties of the solar network respond differently to changes in solar activity.

One of the more intriguing findings was a delay in response. While changes in lane widths tended to peak around the same time as solar activity, changes in brightness lagged behind by as much as 1.5 years. The delay varied depending on latitude and was smallest near the regions where the correlations were strongest.

The researchers, led by Prof KP Raju, say this suggests that different processes may be operating beneath the solar surface and that the effects of magnetic activity take time to work their way through different layers of the Sun's atmosphere.

The findings add a new piece to the long-standing puzzle of how supergranules form and evolve. They also offer fresh insight into how magnetic fields move across the solar surface, a process that influences the Sun's radiation output, particularly in ultraviolet wavelengths.

For solar physicists, the value of the study lies not only in the results but also in the archive that made them possible. Few observatories in the world possess such a long and uninterrupted record of solar observations.

Social media alerts help cops nab 'rapists' in UP

Rajeev.Dikshit
@timesofindia.com

Varanasi: Alerts from social media platforms have helped police apprehend two people accused of raping minors in Uttar Pradesh's Azamgarh. Cybercrime cell uses alerts from Google and Meta to track digital crimes, said Azamgarh SP Anil Kumar. A CyberTipline Report from US-based National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children helped locate Zahid alias Rustam, 45, who had circulated child sexual exploitation material after raping two minor girls, both sisters. Police traced Rustam through IP address tracking, digital log analysis, social media scrutiny, and digital footprint. When police surrounded him in Azamgarh's Gambhirpur on Friday, Rustam opened fire. In retaliatory firing by police, he sustained a bullet injury to the leg.

Investigators recovered more than 30 video clips of the victims from his possession. Police said Rustam shot some of the videos himself. He allegedly lured minor girls to a tubewell room and raped them there. Police are now working to identify survivors to build a strong case against him.

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED

(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking & An ISO 27001-2022 Certified Company)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The APTRANSCO invites bids online for Spec.No.PMM32-e-44/2026: Supply of 822 Nos 33 kV Polymer LAs, 543 Nos. 132 kV Polymer LAs, 153 Nos. 220kV Polymer LAs and 5 Nos. 400 KV Polymer LAs with 31mm/kV creepage distance for all ratings.Date & Time of availability of above tender:10.06.2026 at 6:00PM. Website: www. tender. apeprocurement.gov.in. Contact No.CE/Transmission:0866- 2429230.

R.O.No.GMCC/APTRANSCO/78/26-27 Sd/- **CHIEF ENGINEER /TRANSMISSION**

GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY

Office of the Executive Engineer-6, Lakes, Project Implementation Unit, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru - 560011.

No: EE-6/Lakes/TEND/01/2026-27 **Date: 08-06-2026**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)

(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer-6, Lakes, Project Implementation Unit, GBA, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed below.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Development of Hebbal Lake **(PHASE-2). Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 1370.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 13,70,000.00**
2	Providing Consultancy Service for Development of Hebbal Lake **(PHASE-2). Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 1370.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,00,000.00**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Document may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 10-06-2026.** 2) Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **15-06-2026 at 15.00 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Lakes, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru - 560011.** 3) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: **18-06-2026 upto 16.00 Hours.** 4) Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **19-06-2026 at 16.30 Hours or next working day.** 5) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **After Approval of Technical Bid.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-6, Lakes, Project Implementation Unit, GBA.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर

02942481538 ई-मेल ace.uda.phed@rajasthan.gov.in

क्रमांक-अ.मु.अ. / उदय / अंक. /2026 - 27 /2279-2287 दिनांक: 1/6/26

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 01 / 2026—27

जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर के अधीन बेडच का नाका बांध से विभिन्न ग्रामों को पेयजल योजनाओं के कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन बिडर्स इच्छुक पात्र बिडर्स ई- निविदा संख्या 01/ 2026 27 दिनांक 02-06-2026 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 23-08-2026 सांय 6.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। बिड से संबंधित समस्त जानकारी प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.raj.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

यू.बी.एन. नम्बर: -

NIT No. 01/ 26-27 UBN No. PHE	PHE2627WLOB01659

(शैतान सिंह)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग
क्षेत्र उदयपुर

DIPR/C/9822/2026

REC POWER DEVELOPMENT AND CONSULTANCY LIMITED

(A wholly owned subsidiary of REC Ltd.)

GLOBAL INVITATION (Through e-bidding Only)

FOR SELECTION OF TRANSMISSION SERVICE PROVIDER THROUGH TARIFF BASED COMPETITIVE BIDDING (TBCB) PROCESS ON BUILD, OWN, OPERATE AND TRANSFER (BOOT) BASIS FOR 01 (ONE) INTER – STATE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited, New Delhi, India (a wholly owned subsidiary of REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Undertaking) invites proposal for setting up of the below mentioned transmission project through TBCB process on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis following single stage two envelope process of "Request for Proposal (RFP)". Interested bidders may refer to the Request for Proposal (RFP) notifications and RFP documents available on our websites **www.recpdcl.in** & **www.recindia.nic.in** w.e.f. 09.06.2026.

The bidders may obtain the RFP documents on all working days between 10:30 hours (IST) to 16:00 hours (IST) from 09.06.2026 to one day prior to bid submission date on payment of non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,00,000/-(Rupees Five Lakh Only) or US$ 7000 (US Dollars Seven Thousand Only) + 18% GST as per details provided in the RFP documents available on the websites **www.recpdcl.in** & **www.recindia.nic.in**.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can also be downloaded from our websites **www.recpdcl.in** & **www.recindia.nic.in**, however, in such cases interested parties can submit Response to RFP only on submission of non-refundable fee of ₹ 5,00,000/-(Rupees Five Lakh Only) or US$ 7000 (US Dollars Seven Thousand Only) + 18% GST as per details provided in the RFP document. The survey report & clarifications to RFP document shall be issued to those bidders, who have obtained/purchased RFP documents by paying requisite fee. The important timelines in this regard are as follows:

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Last Date for seeking clarifications	Last Date for submission of Response to RFP	Details of Opening of Response to RFP
1.	ERES-47: Nawada – Durgapur – Jeerat (New) 765kV corridor	29.06.2026	11.08.2026 up to 1500 Hrs (IST)	11.08.2026 at 1530 Hrs (IST)

All corrigenda, addenda, amendments, time extensions, etc. to the RFP will be hosted on our websites **www.recpdcl.in** & **www.recindia.nic.in**. Bidders should regularly visit our websites to keep themselves updated.

Note: RECPDCL reserves the right to cancel or modify the process without assigning any reason and without any liability. This is not an offer.

Chief Executive Officer
REC Power Development and Consultancy Ltd.
Core-4, SCOPE Complex, 7, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003, India

Bid Process Coordinator: REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited
An Initiative of: Ministry of Power, Government of India
Initiative Partner: Central Electricity Authority

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PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in, Contact No. 96461-17606

E-Tender Enquiry No: 220/MM-I/TGM-82(XIII)/O&M/GHTP/2026 dated 04.06.2026

Superintending Engineer, Mechanical Mtc. Circle-I/GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-tender for "Routine, breakdown, preventive maintenance and overhauling jobs (Mechanical works) of Turbine, Generator & their auxiliaries, HP Bypass, LP Bypass, Regenerative system, condenser, piping & valves etc. of 2x210 MW and 2x250 MW Units of Guru Hargobind Thermal Plant (GHTP), Lehra Mohabbat Stage-I&II on lump-sum basis for a period of two years". For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from **05.06.2026** from 18:00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

GHTP-53/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/12129

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

ENGINEERING WING

Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengalur-560 023, Telephone No. 080-29557023 E-mail:cekhsdrp@gmail.com

No:HFWD/EW/CE/TA-3/AE-6/TND/Kothadoddi/2026-27/712 **Date: 08.06.2026**

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Call-3)

The Chief Engineer, HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible Class-II & Above contractors registered in KPWD in two tender document system in KPP Portal. Description of work: **Construction of 6 Bedded PHC (H-Type) at Kothadoddi in Devdurga Taluk in Raichur District. (Call-3)** Approximate Amount put to tender: **Rs. 275.45 Lakhs,** EMD: **Rs. 4.15 Lakhs.** Stipulated period for Completion (Including Monsoon): **09 Months.**

Calendar of Events: (1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **08.07.2026 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **09.07.2026 at 16.30 hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the KPPP Platform Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and EMD, Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the KPPP Platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: (1) All the rights are reserved by the undersigned for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. **(2)** Hence forth, any changes in the schedule/contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru.

TNPL TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
262713 001535	Steaming (Non-Coking) Coal in Bulk (Imported) with 5000 GAR of South African Origin	22.06.2026
262713 001544	Procurement of Wet End Liquid OBA	18.06.2026
262713 001545	Procurement of Surface Liquid OBA	23.06.2026

Corrigendum if any will be issued in NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions are available in tender document at our websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/2016/Tender/2026 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No. 09 UBL 2026-27 Date: 01.06.2026

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Description of work	Approx Value
1	**Hubballi Division: Hubballi-Gadag (UBL-GDG) Section:** Barricading for Kusugal (KUG) Ballast Depot.	Rs. 18,86,039.00
2	**Hubballi Division: Gadag-Hotagi (GDG-HG):** Construction of pre-cast drain between tracks in Bagalkot (BGK), Jumnal (JML), Mulwad (MVD), Minchnal (MNL) yards for a total length of 2.81 km.	Rs. 2,28,15,368.00
3	**Hubballi Division:** Supply of Water Can to Level Crossing gates and gang units under Asst. Divisional Engineer / Ballari Jn. (BAY) Section (Total 28 Gang Units and 36 Gates) for a period of 12 months.	Rs. 11,45,945.00
4	**Hubballi Division:** Provision of workmen sheds in Casteirock (CLR), Doddhsagar (DDS) and Kulem (QLM) Ghat section.	Rs. 2,70,95,645.00
5	**Hubballi Division: Sub Work-I:** Improvement to personal department staff halls, conference hall, officers chamber and washrooms at Rail Soudha Hubballi. **Sub Work-II:** Improvement to windows, flooring, kitchen of Type-IV and Type-IV Special Quarters at Brook Road officers Colony, Hubballi.	Rs. 3,29,01,771.00
6	**Hubballi Division: Vyasa Colony - Swamihalli Section:** Cess repair and widening of formation for a length of 40.58 km.	Rs. 6,86,72,765.00
7	**Hubballi Division: Gadag - Hotgi (GDG-HG) Section:** Construction of Limited Height Subway in lieu of LC No. 112 at Km. 247/1-2 in between Indi Road - Lachyan (IDR-LHN) station respectively.	Rs. 5,02,48,276.00

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 01.07.2026**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination/ Hubballi

PUB/184/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2026-27

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South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

11001/118/2627

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, KEONJHAR

ସରକାରୀ ଯାନ୍ତ୍ରିକ ମହାବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ, କେନ୍ଦୁଝର

(An Affiliated College of BPUT, Odisha)
At: Jamunalia, P.O.: Old Town, Dist., Keonjhar, Pin: 758002 (Odisha)
Web: www.gcekjr.ac.in / Mail Id- principal@gcekjr.ac.in

No. 1022 Date: 06-06-2026

TENDER CALL NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited form reputed original equipment manufacturers / authorized distributors up to the date mentioned in the tender for supply of equipments for Fluid Mechanics and Hydraulic Machines Laboratory through speed post for **Department of Civil Engineering, Government College of Engineering, Keonjhar**. The date of opening the tender is mentioned in the respective tender document, which will be opened in the office of the Principal, Government College of Engineering, Keonjhar in the presence of bidders and/or their nominees. The tender bid documents with details of terms and conditions are to be downloaded from the College Website: **www.gcekjr.ac.in**

The authority reserves the right to reject/cancel the tenders in whole or in part without assigning any reason thereof. The authority will not be responsible for any postal delay.

Sd/-
Principal
Government College of Engineering, Keonjhar

OIPR-11001/11067/1/26-27/0006

32001/356/2627

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER POTTERU IRRIGATION PROJECT, BALIMELA

e-mail Id : ccepotteru123@gmail.com

e-Procurement Notice No.- CCE-PIP-BML-04/ 2026-27

1. Type of Works: **System Improvement works.**
2. Total No. of Works: **Five (5) Nos.**
3. Estimated Cost: **Varies from Rs. 250.73 Lakh to Rs. 251.26 Lakh**
4. Period of Completion: **Eight (8) Calendar Months**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Bid Amount (Rs. In Lakh)	Availability & Submission of Bids-on line
Chief Construction Engineer, Potteru Irrigation Project, Balimela, Malkangiri	CCE-PIP-BML-04(1)/2026-27 to CCE-PIP-BML-04(5)/2026-27	Varies from Rs. 250.73 Lakh to Rs. 251.26 Lakh	From 10.06.2026 10.00 A.M. to 19.06.2026 5.00 P.M.

Date of opening of the Tender / Bid: **20.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.**
Further details can be seen from the Govt. Website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Potteru Irrigation Project, Balimela

OIPR-32001/32052/1/26-27/0009

25001/356/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BOLANGIR

1st Corrigendum Notice
No. 2592 dated. 06.06.2026

1st Corrigendum Notice vide this office Bid Identification No. **BLGR-Online-05/2026-27 & BLGR-Online-06/2026-27** regarding revised extension of time as follows:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender: Technical Bid	Date & Time of opening of tender: Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Bolangir	BLGR-Online-05/2026-27 BLGR-Online-06/2026-27	25.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	24.06.2026 up to 05.00 P.M.	23.06.2026 up to 05.00 P.M.	25.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	The date will be intimated later on

N.B. - All other terms and conditions remain unchanged

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Work Circle, Bolangir

OIPR-25001/25118/1/26-27/0008

32001/353/2627

GOVT. OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer
Vansadhara Nagabali Basin, Paralakhemundi
(email Id: se_sicpkd@yahoo.com)

e- Procurement Notice No. ACEVNB-02/2026-27

1.	Type of works	:	Flood potection works of river banks.
2.	Total number of Packages	:	2 (two) Nos.
3.	Estimated Cost	:	Rs. 201.60 lakhs to Rs.328.17 lakhs
4.	Bid Identification No.	:	: ACEVNB / RID-04/2026-27, ACEVNB / RID-05 / 2026-27
5.	Period of completion	:	10 (Ten) months to 12 (Twelve) months
6.	Availability & submission of bids online	:	From 11.00 AM of 12.06.2026 to 5.00 PM of 29.06.2026.
7.	Date of Opening of Technical Bids	:	30.06.2026 at 11.00 AM. in the, O/O the Additional Chief Engineer, Vansadhara Nagabali Basin, Paralakhemundi.
8.	Procurement Officer	:	Additional Chief Engineer, Vansadhara Nagabali Basin, Paralakhemundi.
9.	Further details can be seen from Govt. Website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in** and any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation will be published in the said website.		

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Vansadhara Nagabali Basin
Paralakhemundi

OIPR-32001/32417/1/26-27/0002

मध्यप्रदेश शासन नर्मदा घाटी विकास प्राधिकरण कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता (ऊर्जा) नर्मदा घाटी विकास प्राधिकरण, भोपाल (म.प्र.) - 462011

Email ID-cepowern@gmail.com

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना वास्ते प्रकाशन

निम्न कार्य की ऑन लाइन निविदा प्रतिशत दर (अपेडिक्स 2.10) ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट सिस्टम पोर्टल www.mptenders.gov.in पर की जा रही है। निविदा की संक्षिप्त जानकारी निम्नानुसार है--

निविदा क्र.	ई. निविदा क्र.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित राशि (रू. में)	धरोहर राशि (रू. में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	निविदाकार की श्रेणी	कार्य पूर्ण अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
01/CE (Power)/2026-27/137/ dated 03.06.2026	2026_ NVDA_ 512800_1	रानी अवंती बाई लोधी सागर परियोजना (बरगी) के बांयी तट नहर पर स्थित 2.35 मेगावाट नहर शीर्ष विद्युत गृह के संचालन एवं संधारण का कार्य ।	रूपये 1506.00 लाख (एक हजार पांच सौ छै लाख मात्र)	रूपये 10.00 लाख (दस लाख मात्र)	रू. 30,000.00 (रूपये तीस हजार) मात्र	प्रमुख अभियंता (केंद्रीयकृत लो. नि.वि.) में पंजीकृत	05 वर्ष (अनुबंध की तिथि से)
		कुल योग रू.	15,06,00,000.00	(रूपये पन्द्रह करोड छै लाख मात्र)			

निविदा प्रपत्र क्रय करने की तिथि : 04/06/2026, 17:30 (केवल आनलाइन)
प्राइज बीड जमा करने की तिथि अंतिम : 25/06/2026, 17:30 तक (केवल आनलाइन)
निविदा की धरोहर राशि खुलने की तिथि : 29/06/2026, 10:31 से (केवल ऑनलाइन)
प्राइज बीड खुलने की तिथि : 29/06/2026, 10:30 से (केवल ऑनलाइन)

निविदा प्रपत्र को उपरोक्त वेबसाइट पर केवल ऑनलाइन क्रय किया जा सकता है। ऑनलाइन पर भुगतान डेबिट / कैश कार्ड या इन्टरनेट बैंकिंग अकाउण्ट्स के माध्यम से किया जा सकता हैं। निविदा की विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट www.mptenders.gov.in का अवलोकन करें।

Sd/-
(श्रीमति मंजरी तिवारी)
वांछिकीय प्रशासकीय अधिकारी
नर्मदा घाटी विकास प्राधिकरण, नर्मदा भवन भोपाल (म.प्र.)

"पॉक्सो है सुरक्षा का हथियार, बच्चों पर न करें अत्याचार" G-14092/26

34001/320/2627

WORKS DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE (R&B), BALASORE

e-mail : - seec_bls@rediffmail.com
Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. CCEEC-05/2026-27
No : 4154 Dt : 08.06.2026

Nature of work : - **Road Works.**
Number of works : - **01 No. Road.**
Amount put to Tender : - **Rs. 193.45 lakh.**
Class of Contractor : - **"B" & "A" Class.**
Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal: - **Dt. 11.06.2026 at 10:00 AM**
Last Date/Time of receipt of bid in the portal:- **Dt. 20.06.2026 up to 05:00 PM**
Date of opening of bid: - **Dt. 22.06.2026 at 11:00 AM**
Name & address of the Office inviting bid: - **Chief Construction Engineer, Eastern Circle (R&B), Balasore.**

The bidders have to participate in **ONLINE** bidding only. Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "**http//tendersodisha.gov.in.**" All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE mode only.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Eastern Circle (R&B) Balasore

OIPR-34001/34026/1/26-27/0007

37001/20/2627

ODISHA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

(A GOVT. OF ODISHA UNDERTAKING)
PANTHANIVAS (OLD BLOCK): LEWIS ROAD: BHUBANESWAR-14
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)
Letter No. 3474 Date : 05.06.2026

NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS (NIFB)

E-Procurement Notice No. BP-I/37/2025-26 Dt. 05.06.2026

The Superintending Engineer, O.T.D.C. Ltd., Bhubaneshwar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites bids in **Percentage Rate, ONLINE MODE, Double Cover system** only, for the work:

Sl No.	Name of the Work	Approximate Value of work. (Rs.)	Amount of Bid security (1% of value of work) (Rs.)	Cost of bid document + GST @18% (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Infrastructure Development of Ranipur Jharial at Bangomunda Block, Bolangir (Part-2).	**Rs.1850.09 lakh**	Rs. 18,50,090.00	Rs. 10,000/- +1800/- (Online)	"Special" & "A" Class	15 (Fifteen) Calendar Months

Bid documents such as DTCN / BOQ etc. can be seen / downloaded from the Govt. Website i.e. **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** during the period on **Dt. 11.06.2026 to 17.00 Hours of Dt. 25.06.2026.**

1. Online bids shall be received **till 17.00 Hours of Dt. 25.06.2026.**
2. The technical bids will be opened at **11.30 Hours of Dt. 29.06.2026** the office of the Superintending Engineer, O.T.D.C. Ltd, Bhubaneswar.
3. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.
4. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said websites.

The Tender Call notice may be forwarded to DM(PP) for publication in One Engilsh National & Two Odia daily as per Appendix-IX, Vol-II of OPWD Code.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
O.T.D.C., Ltd. Bhubaneswar

OIPR-37001/37002/1/26-27/0012

25001/359/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE : SUNDARGARH

AT/PO - SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address - serw_sundargarh@yahoo.com
No. Tender Online - RWCCESNG - 11 of 2026-27, Letter No. 3313/ Dtd. 05.06.2026

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Type of the Work : Roads
2. Class of Contractor : As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure
3. Time of Completion : As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Estimated Cost : As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure
6. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of tender On-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender: Technical Bid	Date & Time of Opening of Tender: Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCESNG-11 of 2026-27	12.06.2026 11:00 AM	29.06.2026 5:00 PM	27.06.2026 5:00 PM	30.06.2026 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh

OIPR-25001/25133/1/26-27/0014

37001/19/2627

ODISHA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

(A GOVT. OF ODISHA UNDERTAKING)
PANTHANIVAS (OLD BLOCK): LEWIS ROAD: BHUBANESWAR-14
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)
Letter No. 3470 Date : 05.06.2026

NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS (NIFB)

E-Procurement Notice No. BP-I/36/2025-26 Dt. 05.06.2026

The Superintending Engineer, O.T.D.C. Ltd., Bhubaneshwar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites bids in **Percentage Rate, ONLINE MODE, Double Cover system** only, for the work:

Sl No.	Name of the Work	Approximate Value of work. (Rs.)	Amount of Bid security (1% of value of work) (Rs.)	Cost of bid document + GST @18% (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Infrastructure Development of Ranipur Jharial at Bangomunda Block, Bolangir.	**Rs.1850.40 lakh**	Rs. 18,50,400.00	Rs. 10,000/- +1800/- (Online)	"Special" & "A" Class	15 (Fifteen) Calendar Months

Bid documents such as DTCN / BOQ etc. can be seen / downloaded from the Govt. Website i.e. **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** during the period on **Dt. 11.06.2026 to 17.00 Hours of Dt. 25.06.2026.**

1. Online bids shall be received **till 17.00 Hours of Dt. 25.06.2026.**
2. The technical bids will be opened at **11.30 Hours of Dt. 29.06.2026** the office of the Superintending Engineer, O.T.D.C. Ltd, Bhubaneswar.
3. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.
4. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said websites.

The Tender Call notice may be forwarded to DM(PP) for publication in One Engilsh National & Two Odia daily as per Appendix-IX, Vol-II of OPWD Code.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
O.T.D.C., Ltd. Bhubaneswar

OIPR-37001/37002/1/26-27/0011

CBIC TUMAKURU INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Government of India and Government of Karnataka)
Communication Office: #2, 2/1 & 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560009. Ph: +91-80-22265383, Email:mdcbic24@gmail.com

No:CBICTITL/ENGG/ETND-DPR-01/664/2026-27 **Date:08-06-2026**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

CBIC-TITL invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work for project mentioned below:-

Name of the work: Providing Consultancy Services for Survey, Investigation, Design, Estimate and Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Water Supply Scheme from Vanivilas Sagara Dam to Tumakuru Industrial Township (CBIC) via Metikurke Industrial Area and Sira Industrial Area. (2nd Call)

- Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **20-06-2026** upto **4:00** pm.

Applicants May download bidding documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Engineer-In-Chief
CBIC-TITL

DIPR/CP/1054/CCL/2026-27

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY, IMA & OTHER KPIDFE SCAM CASES

3rd & 4th Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001
e-mail: splocaima21@gmail.com Phone No.080-29565353/29566556

No. SPLOCA/ADM/PROC-02/12/2025-26 **Date: 08-06-2026**

Tender Notice

The Special Officer & Competent Authority (IMA and other KPIDFE scam cases) invites e-tenders for the production of a documentary on financial frauds, in accordance with the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act, 1999, and the Rules, 2000.

Calender of Events:

Publication of the tender document	**11-06-2026**
Downloading of tender document commencement date	**12-06-2026**
Last date for uploading tender document	**23-06-2026**
Last date for receiving queries	**20-06-2026**
Pre-bid meeting	**16-06-2026 at 03:00 PM**
Opening of Technical bid	**24-06-2026 03:00 PM**
Opening of Financial bid	**28-06-2026 03:00 PM**
EMD of Rs	**10,000/-**

For any query contact: O/o SPLOCA, IMA & OTHER KPIDFE SCAM CASES, 3rd floor, podium block, V.V Towers, Bengaluru - 560001. e-mail: splocaima21@gmail.com. Contact: 080-29566556. Details regarding Tender terms and conditions are available at e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home.**

Sd/-
Special Officer & Competent Authority, (IMA & Other KPIDFE Cases) Bangalore

DIPR/CP/1053/NR/2026-27

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY, IMA & OTHER KPIDFE SCAM CASES

3rd & 4th Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001
e-mail: splocaima21@gmail.com Phone No.080-29565353/29566556

No. SPLOCA/ADM/PROC-02/10/2025-26 **Date: 08-06-2026**

Tender Notice

"The Special Officer & Competent Authority (IMA & other KPIDFE scam cases) hereby invites tenders under the e-tendering system for Vlogging Equipment & Software in accordance with the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 1999 and Rules, 2000.

Calender of Events:

Publication of the tender document	**13-06-2026**
Downloading of tender document commencement date	**14-06-2026**
Last date for uploading tender document	**23-06-2026**
Last date for receiving queries	**21-06-2026**
Pre-bid meeting	**16-06-2026 at 03:00 PM**
Opening of Technical bid	**24-06-2026 03:00 PM**
Opening of Financial bid	**27-06-2026 03:00 PM**
EMD of Rs	**10,000/-**

For any query contact: O/o SPLOCA, IMA & OTHER KPIDFE SCAM CASES, 3rd floor, podium block, V.V Towers, Bengaluru - 560001. e-mail: splocaima21@gmail.com. Contact: 080-29566556. Details regarding Tender terms and conditions are available at e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home.**

Sd/-
Special Officer & Competent Authority, (IMA & Other KPIDFE Cases) Bangalore

DIPR/CP/1052/Zen/2026-27

TIMES BUSINESS
THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026

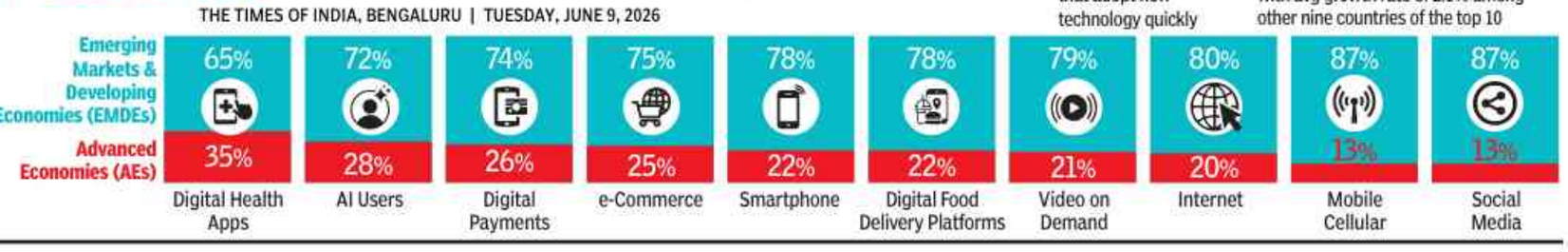
Global trade in digital services imbalanced

Majority of consumers of digital technologies reside in emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs), while more than four-fifths of the production and ownership of these services remain concentrated in advanced economies (AEs), which capture the value of these digitally delivered services

Source: Icrier Prosus State of India's Digital Economy report 2026

User share across various technologies

Most digital technology users live outside advanced economies


Emerging Markets & Developing Economies (EMDEs)
Advanced Economies (AEs)
65% 35% Digital Health Apps
72% 28% AI Users
74% 26% Digital Payments
75% 25% e-Commerce
78% 22% Smartphone
78% 22% Digital Food Delivery Platforms
79% 21% Video on Demand
80% 20% Internet
87% 13% Mobile Cellular
87% 13% Social Media

FACTORS AFFECTING DIGITAL CONSUMPTION BOOM

- EMDEs have larger populations, often with younger demographics that adopt new technology quickly
- Thanks to smartphones and low-cost internet, digital tech has become more accessible between 2023-24, compared with avg growth rate of 2.1% among other nine countries of the top 10

Fresh tension in West Asia sinks sensex by 719 points

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Fresh flare ups between Iran and Israel on Monday sank the rupee, spiked crude prices globally and pulled down most major Asian markets. As a result, sensex dipped over 900 points (1.3%) in early trades but recouped some ground to close 719 points (1%) lower at 73,524 points. Friday's massive sell-off in the US market also weighed on investor sentiment on Dalal Street, market players said.

Most Asian markets also sank deep in the red, mainly due to Friday's sell-off on Wall Street that was led by AI-heavy stocks. Kospi in Korea closed 8% down after a circuit-breaker was triggered, Nikkei closed nearly 4% down while Shanghai Composite closed 1.7% lower.

After Indian markets closed, there were reports of a ceasefire between Iran and Israel that lifted sentiment among investors globally. US markets were up in opening trades while crude oil, which was up more than 5% early in the day, gave up most of the gains and in late evening trades was up just about 1%. In domestic markets, after some recovery in mid-session, sensex dipped again to close at a more than one-month low level.

Rupee weakens 76p

Rupee weakened sharply to close at 95.71 against the dollar, down 76 paise from the previous close of 94.95. as rising crude prices, stronger US economic data, and renewed geopolitical tensions erased most of prior session's gains, pushing it to its steepest fall in four weeks.

TCS rolls out new GCC unit, appoints Roy as new head

Bengaluru: TCS launched a new business unit, global value and innovation centres (GVIC), to help enterprises establish AI-native global capability centres (GCCs) and transform existing centres into innovation- and value-led operations.

To lead the initiative, TCS has appointed Soumen Roy as head of GVIC. Roy, who most recently served as TCS' country head for Canada, brings nearly three decades of experience across leadership roles within the company. He will report to TCS CEO K Krithivasan. The move comes as GCCs evolve from traditional delivery hubs into strategic enterprise assets that increasingly own products, platforms and business outcomes.

TCS GVIC will offer services across the entire GCC lifecycle, spanning strategy, setup, scaling, operations and AI-led transformation. Krithivasan said, "With TCS GVIC, we are bringing together TCS' deep experience across the GCC lifecycle with our strengths in AI, engineering, talent and operations to build high-impact, future-ready global centres that deliver sustained business value for clients."

Separately, TCS has signed a multi-year agreement with Canada Life, a global life and pensions insurer, to modernise the company's IT infrastructure services across its European operations. TNN

RBI to fully absorb forex risks, inflows may see $50bn boost

Move To Allow Banks To Offer Higher Returns On NRI Deposits

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Reserve Bank of India has opened the dollar tap by taking on the currency risk itself to draw in overseas money, while nudging state-owned borrowers to look abroad for cheaper funds.

RBI will not charge any premium for swapping dollars raised through foreign currency non-resident- bank FCNR(B) deposits, effectively absorbing the entire forex risk and allowing banks to offer higher returns to NRIs. In addition, FCNR(B) deposits of three to five years will be exempt from cash reserve ratio and statutory liquidity ratio, lowering the cost of mobilising such funds for banks.

A higher return on foreign currency non-resident (FCNR-B) deposits provides an arbitrage opportunity to NRIs – borrow money from banks abroad and park them in India and pocket the difference in rates.

RBI'S PLAN OF ACTION

- FCNR(B) deposits of three to five years to be exempt from cash reserve ratio and statutory liquidity ratio, lowering cost of mobilising such funds for banks
- For external commercial borrowings, RBI has set a swap cost of 1.5% a year, making overseas loans attractive for top-rated PSUs compared with domestic funding
- FCNR(B) swap window will remain open until Oct 16, 2026, for deposits mobilised up to Sept 30
- The ECB and OFCB swap facility will run until Jan 15, 2027, for drawdowns up to Dec 31, 2026

For external commercial borrowings, the central bank has set a swap cost of 1.5% a year, making overseas loans attractive for top-rated PSUs compared with domestic funding. Bankers are pencilling in inflows of around $50 billion across the two schemes.

The latest window also sidesteps a regulatory constraint that had tightened earlier this year. Dollar swap deals with RBI will be kept outside the limits on net open position, a move aimed at encouraging participation without running into balance sheet caps that were introduced to curb speculation in the forex market.

The FCNR(B) swap window will remain open until Oct 16, 2026, for deposits mobilised up to Sept 30, while the ECB and OFCB swap facility will run until Jan 15, 2027, for drawdowns up to Dec 31, 2026.

RBI governor Sanjay Malhotra on Friday said there is no target or cap for mobilisation under the schemes, while making it clear that the concessional swap window for ECBs is limited to public sector undertakings. "Benefits to PSUs are passed on to the general public because they are catering more to utilities and infrastructure. If we extend to the private sector the benefits are not as widely dispersed," he said. The pricing mechanics underline the policy intent. RBI will charge a fixed premium of 1.5% a year, compounded semi-annually, on swaps linked to ECBs and OFCBs. Authorised dealer category-I banks will sell dollars to RBI at the prevailing FBIL reference rate on a spot basis and, at maturity, return rupee funds along with the accumulated premium to buy back the dollars.

RBI has also given banks balance sheet comfort by allowing them to exclude swap positions arising from these transactions while computing net open position. According to the circular, this ensures that the forex exposures created by these multi-year swaps do not eat into regulatory limits under FEMA guidelines. The swaps will be non-cancellable, and FCNR(B) deposits will carry a 1-year lock-in on premature withdrawal.

Venu, Singh's presence in TEDT branches in focus

Trustee Mehli Mistry Questions Duo's Presence In TEDT Affiliates, Matter Pushed To Later Date

Reeba.Zachariah
@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: M Pallonji Group director and trustee Mehli Mistry raised questions at the Tata Education and Development Trust (TEDT) meeting on Monday over whether trustees who no longer sit on the board should continue to sit on affiliated bodies, a challenge directed squarely at Venu Srinivasan and Vijay Singh.

It was TEDT's first meeting since Srinivasan and Singh's reappointment was blocked by Mehli, chairman Noel Tata and trustee Jehangir Mistry. Their terms ended last month. Noel is learned to have responded "we will think about it," pushing the matter to a later date.

Mehli's remarks targeted Singh, who retains board positions at the Tata Cancer Care Foundation and the Assam Cancer Care Foundation, and Srinivasan, who remains on the board of the Tata Indian Institute of Skills.

Mehli drew on his own precedent to make the point—noting that after his trusteeship was not extended at the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, he had voluntarily stepped down from affiliated bodies including the Bai Hirabai Trust and the National Centre for the Performing Arts.

POWER PLAY IN HOUSE OF TATAS

- **MAY 3, 2026** | TEDT circulates a resolution seeking the reappointment of Venu Srinivasan and Vijay Singh as trustees
- **MAY 6–7** | Suresh Patilkhede moves Bombay high court to restrain an SRTT meeting; the court declines request
- **MAY 8** | Tata Trusts postpones scheduled meetings
- **MAY 10** | Srinivasan and Singh's TEDT terms expire after their reappointments fail to secure unanimous support
- **MAY 15** | Maharashtra Charity Commissioner orders an inquiry into governance complaints and directs Tata Trusts May 16 meeting to be deferred
- **MAY 18** | The commissioner clarifies that the restriction applies only to SRTT
- **JUNE 8** | SDTT and TEDT hold board meetings

However, people familiar with the legalities said that though these three entities have been backed by TEDT, they are separate entities and their boards will have to take a call as and when their members' terms come up for renewal.

Prior to the TEDT meeting, the board of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT) met to discuss routine funding matters, with contentious issues such as renewal of Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran's appointment and the potential Tata Sons listing kept off the agenda entirely. The meeting discussed funding for a multi-speciality hospital in Nagpur in association with the National Cancer Institute and an undergraduate college in Bengaluru. Tata Trusts disbursed Rs 1,585 crore in grants in FY2026— nearly double the Rs 850 crore distributed the year before. All trustees attended except Singh. SDTT chairman Noel Tata and his son Neville Tata were physically present alongside trustee Bhaskar Bhat, while Darius Khambata and Srinivasan joined by video conference.

The Sir Ratan Tata Trust remains barred from holding board meetings following an order by the Maharashtra charity commissioner. Separately, Mehli has filed an objection with the commissioner against a change report submitted by SRTT, alleging governance lapses, conflicts of interest and breaches of fiduciary duty by certain trustees.

The filing, submitted on Friday, focuses on commissions and remuneration received by trustees serving as nominee directors on the boards of Tata Sons and its operating companies.

Infosys pauses tests for job seekers amid cheating row

Shilpa.Phadnis
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Infosys has deferred online assessment tests and in-person evaluations for more than 20,000 job applicants after detecting multiple instances of impersonation and candidate assessment malpractices during the hiring assessments.

The company, which recruits from 300-400 colleges across India each year, postponed assessments for specialist programmer and digital specialist engineer candidates after uncovering attempts to game the evaluation process. Infosys has since introduced additional guardrails and verification checks to preserve the integrity of its hiring assessments.

In an email to candidates, the company said, "We have an update regarding the online hiring exam for the specialist programmer (trainee) and digital specialist engineer (trainee) roles. The scheduled assessment has been deferred. We will reach out to you with an updated schedule once the revised plan is finalised. We truly appreciate your flexibility and understanding. The revised exam date will be shared with all registered candidates in due course." When contacted by TOI, Infosys confirmed the deferment. "The online hiring exam and the in-person evaluation for the specialist programmer and digital specialist engineer roles have been deferred. We have informed all affected candidates and will communicate the revised schedules once they are finalised," the company said.

Assessments for over 20,000 candidates deferred after company detected impersonation and other malpractices

Infosys added that the deferment does not affect its hiring plans. "This deferment does not impact our hiring commitments, and we remain focused on identifying, hiring and nurturing top talent." Infosys continues to hire aggressively from campuses. The company added more than 20,000 freshers in FY26 and has indicated a similar intake target for FY27.

The company conducts online screening through its digital learning platform, Springboard. To date, the platform has reached more than 15 million people, including employees, client workforces, students, teachers and community members through digital skilling initiatives.

Last year, Infosys moved from a virtual-only recruitment model to a hybrid approach combining virtual and in-person hiring. The company had earlier noted that virtual hiring presents challenges, including fake profiles, limited opportunities to build personal rapport, and technical issues that can affect the effectiveness of candidate assessments. In the same period, Infosys terminated around 600 trainees at its Mysuru campus after they failed to clear internal assessments despite being given three attempts.

During FY26, Infosys received 5.8 million job applications, interviewed 450,901 candidates and extended offers to 87,286 applicants, excluding its subsidiaries.

Kiran Shaw's Immuneel Therapeutics raises ₹100 cr

Shilpa.Phadnis
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw-founded cell and gene therapy company Immuneel Therapeutics has raised over Rs 100 crore from new investors, including Singularity AMC, Rainmatter by Zerodha and several high-net-worth individuals.

Immuneel is an integrated cell and gene therapy platform focused on developing and commercialising advanced therapies for cancer and other diseases.

GENE THERAPY

Following the commercial launch of Qartemi, an approved CAR-T therapy for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, the company is expanding into high-growth emerging markets and advancing clinical co-development partnerships in Australia and Southeast Asia. It operates India's first international-standard CAR-T platform, delivering advanced therapies at a fraction of the cost in Western markets. CAR-T therapy is a personalised treatment that uses genetically engineered versions of a patient's own immune cells to identify and destroy cancer cells. Immuneel has commercialised the therapy in India at roughly one-tenth of global costs, significantly improving patient access.

"The funding strengthens our ability to build a globally competitive CAR-T platform from India, combining deep science, scalable manufacturing and significantly improved affordability. We believe India can play a meaningful role in shaping the future of cell and gene therapy for the world," Mazumdar-Shaw said.

Report: 57k cybersecurity pros switch jobs annually

Shilpa.Phadnis
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Nearly one in five cybersecurity professionals in India changed jobs over the past year, underscoring an intensifying war for talent as organisations grapple with rising cyber threats and acute shortages in emerging areas such as AI security, cloud security and industrial systems protection.

According to a report by Careernet, India has become a major hotspot in the global cyber threat landscape. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) recorded 1.5 million cybersecurity incidents in 2023, up from 394,000 in 2019. Incident volumes are estimated to have nearly doubled again to around 3 million in 2025.

India's cybersecurity workforce is estimated at about 300,000 professionals, representing roughly 5.5% of the global experienced cyber talent pool of 5.5 million. However, the report says workforce growth has failed to keep pace with the rapid expansion of cyber risks and evolving technology environments.

Annual mobility in India's cybersecurity workforce stands at 18.9%, translating to nearly 57,000 professionals switching employers each year. At the same time, around 65,000 professionals are actively seeking opportunities, while employers are trying to fill nearly 39,000 open positions.

CYBERSECURITY TALENT OVERVIEW (2025-2026)

- India accounts for roughly **5.5% of the global cybersecurity talent pool**
- Demand in specialised areas such as **AI security, cloud security and IoT security** continues to outpace supply

Metric	India market data
Total cybersecurity talent pool globally	**5,500k** professionals
Talent pool in India	~**300k** professionals
Annual job mobility	~**57k** professionals (18.9%)
Actively seeking opportunities	~**65k** professionals
Current open positions	~**39k** active roles
Annual talent pipeline addition	**40k-60k** professionals
Top hiring sectors	BFSI, IT/ITeS, govt/ defence, telecom, healthcare

Source: Careernet

The highest attrition rates were recorded in cloud-native and container security (26.67%), AI/ML security (25.97%), cloud and infrastructure security (23.04%), endpoint security (22.92%), and security operations and monitoring (22.24%). "In traditional areas such as governance, risk and compliance, talent availability is relatively balanced. However, specialised domains including AI/ML security, privacy, cloud-native security, blockchain and Web3 security, and quantum-safe security face clear demand-supply gaps," said Anshuman Das, CEO and cofounder of Careernet.

The imbalance is most visible in cloud and infrastructure security, where the demand ratio has reached 104.2%, application security at 123.3%, and data security and data loss prevention at 115.6%, indicating more open positions than active candidates. The shortages are even more severe in emerging fields. IoT and connected-device security recorded a demand ratio of 237%, while blockchain and Web3 security stood at 230.2%.

Das said the challenge is not merely adding more cybersecurity professionals but building deeper expertise in emerging fields. As organisations adopt AI, cloud platforms and connected devices, cybersecurity has become a board-level priority driven by financial, regulatory and reputational risks, making specialised talent increasingly critical.

Current account surplus narrows on higher imports

Goods export estimated to have grown 15% in May

New Delhi: Continuing the momentum witnessed in April, Indian goods exports are estimated to have grown 15% in May as crude refining industry gained from high global oil prices. Excluding petroleum products, merchandise exports are estimated to have risen at 11% last month, an official said Monday. "It's not only the petroleum products that drive the value. Indian goods in other industries are also doing well," the official said. Contrary to the expectations, high oil prices have propelled India's exports to $43.6 billion in April — highest monthly level in over four years, registering a 13.8% growth. Imports also had risen at a more moderate pace of 9.9% to $71.9 billion, resulting in a trade deficit of $28.3 billion — a three-month high. Oil product exports had jumped 34.7% to $9.6 billion in April. TNN

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: India's current account surplus narrowed to $7.1 billion in the Jan-Mar 2026 quarter from $13.7 billion a year earlier, as a surge in gold imports and a deterioration in merchandise trade outweighed gains in services exports and remittance inflows, with the surplus halving to 0.7% of GDP from 1.4%.

On a sequential basis, however, the current account recorded a $22.6 billion swing, turning a $15.5 billion deficit in Oct-Dec 2025 into a $7.1 billion surplus, led by an improvement in the goods balance as the deficit narrowed by $12.4 billion from $95.9 billion to $83.4 billion.

Net services receipts increased to $60.4 billion in Jan-Mar 2026 from $53.3 billion a year earlier, while personal transfer receipts under the secondary income account rose to $43.5 billion from $33.9 billion. In the financial account, FDI recorded a net inflow of $4.2 billion in Jan-Mar 2026, higher than $0.4 billion a year earlier, while FPI recorded a net outflow of $12 billion, higher than the outflow of $5.9 billion in the corresponding period.

The narrowing of the surplus was driven by a widening of the goods trade deficit, which expanded by $24.1 billion from $59.3 billion in Jan-Mar 2025 to $83.4 billion in Jan-Mar 2026. The deterioration was led by a rise in non-monetary gold imports, where outflows increased from $9.5 billion to $22.6 billion, exerting a negative impact of $13.1 billion. At the same time, the general merchandise trade balance worsened by $11.4 billion as exports declined by $3.7 billion to $112.6 billion while imports rose by $7.7 billion to $174 billion.

Partially offsetting this drag, net secondary income increased by $9.7 billion, rising from $31.5 billion to $41.3 billion, supported by higher remittance inflows.

The services surplus expanded, driven by computer services where net receipts rose by $5.6 billion to $47.1 billion, supported by a $6.4 billion increase in exports. Professional and management consulting services also recorded gains, with the surplus increasing by $3.2 billion to $19.7 billion on the back of a $4 billion rise in exports. These gains were partly offset by a widening deficit in technical, trade-related and other business services.

The primary income deficit narrowed by $0.8 billion to $11.1 billion, aided by an improvement in direct investment income. Net outflows under this category reduced by $1.3 billion as payments to foreign investors declined by $0.5 billion and receipts increased by $0.8 billion.

Airtel, Voda Idea get spectrum levy relief

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: In a relief to cellular service operators, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, Bombay High Court quashed Centre's one-time spectrum charge imposed unilaterally in 2012, from 2008 onwards.

Govt cannot retrospectively alter the financial terms of telecom licences years after they had been granted, said a division bench of Justices Manish Pitale and Shreeram Shirsat on Monday. The telecom operators had paid for the spectrum, or the airwaves used in the wireless network, in a revenue-sharing regime under the National Telecom Policy, 1999 (NTP) said HC and added that introducing an additional charge years later amounts to changing the deal and the Centre was unable to justify its action for a one-time spectrum charge retrospectively.

The court also set aside the consequential demand notices issued to the telecom operators and directed authorities to return the bank guarantees furnished following interim orders. The retrospective demands cumulatively crossed Rs 6,000 crores for the two companies it was later disclosed. The levy by the department of telecommunications was on holdings beyond 6.2 MHz made, retrospectively applicable from July 1, 2008.

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026

99% OF FAILURES COME FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE HABIT OF MAKING EXCUSES — GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

GEENA DAVIS, 70, SAYS SHE'S 'GLAD' SHE HAD HER KIDS IN LATE 40s: 'I'M RELAXED ABOUT GETTING OLDER. IN MY HEAD I'M 35'

IDRIS ELBA SAYS 007 RUMOURS WERE NEVER REALISTIC: 'AUDIENCES WON'T GO FOR A BLACK MALE PLAYING BOND'

Iran, Israel halt strikes on each other for now

Attacks Over Last 24 Hours Most Direct Since April Truce

Dubai/Jerusalem: Iran and Israel said on Monday they had halted attacks on each other after an appeal from US President Trump that they immediately "stop 'shooting'", though Tehran said it would resume strikes if Israel continued to hit Hezbollah in Lebanon.

The wave of attacks over 24 hours were the most direct confrontation between Iran and Israel since an April ceasefire, threatening to wreck Washington's efforts to reach an agreement with Tehran to end their more than three-month-old war. Oil prices — which had risen by as much as 5% after the flurry of attacks — pared gains when Iran's military said its first wave of strikes on Israel was over. The dollar retreated from its highest level in nearly two months.

A source briefed on the matter said Israel had also decided to halt its attacks on Iran.

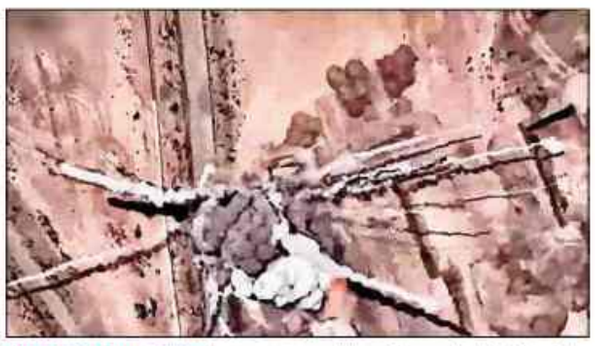
Tehran fired missiles towards Israeli territory late on Sunday, calling them retaliation for Israeli attacks on strongholds of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militia on the outskirts of Beirut. Israel then hit a petrochemical plant in southwest Iran that it said was used to produce ballistic missiles. Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said it had retaliated with a strike aimed at a similar Israeli plant in the city of Haifa.

Iran's military said it had "delivered a painful response" against Israel for its attacks on Lebanon. "Accordingly, the operations of the armed forces are hereby declared halted; however, it is emphasised that if the aggressions and acts of mischief continue — including in southern Lebanon — much more severe and crushing actions than before will follow."

Hours after Iran's announcement, sirens sounded in the Zar'it area of northern Israel when a projectile was identified as falling in an area of southern Lebanon. Israeli defence minister Israel Katz said that Israel would strike Hezbollah's Dahiyeh stronghold in southern Beirut once more if there were attacks on northern Israel. An Israeli official said Trump had spoken with PM Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday. Earlier, an Israeli military official said Israel was prepared to continue operations for "as long as it takes".

Iranian officials struck a similarly defiant tone. A military source said that Tehran was ready for a prolonged conflict and could renew strikes against US interests in the region.

AFP/Reuters



ON WARPATH, AGAIN: A man poses next to a fallen rocket half-buried in the ground on the outskirts of Jericho, West Bank, on Monday; a screengrab from a video released by the Israeli military shows a strike on an aerial defence system in Iran at an unknown location

Trump's peace plan in West Asia remains under construction

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: US President Donald Trump is once again scrambling to preserve a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Iran, insisting that a broader peace agreement is within reach even as renewed missile exchanges, mutual threats, and deep mistrust continue to push West Asia towards another dangerous escalation.

The latest flare-up over the weekend marked the most serious breakdown of the US-brokered ceasefire. Israeli strikes on targets linked to Hezbollah in Lebanon in response to Hezbollah's strikes, quickly expanded into attacks on Iranian assets, including a petrochemical facility, prompting Tehran to launch ballistic missiles at Israel and threaten further retaliation. Although both sides halted operations on Monday, neither offered assurances that the truce would hold.

Trump sought to project confidence, declaring that "Both sides, Israel and Iran, are looking to do an immediate CEASEFIRE! Final negotiations on 'Peace' are proceeding, subject to ignorance or stupidity getting in its way. The Blockade will remain in place, and in full force and effect, until a 'Final Deal' is reached. Things should move quickly."

The president's optimistic rhetoric, however, increasingly contrasts with the reality on the ground. More than two weeks after Trump announced that a breakthrough deal with Iran would be unveiled "shortly", negotiations remain stalled, while military exchanges continue across the region.

The central obstacle remains the vast gulf between Washington and Tehran. Iranian officials reportedly want the release of billions of dollars in frozen assets as part of any arrangement that would reopen the Strait of Hormuz and restart talks on Tehran's nuclear programme. US negotiators have resisted those demands.

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu and other Iran hawks remain deeply sceptical of Trump's approach. Their concern is that the president, eager to claim a diplomatic victory, could settle for restrictions on Iran's nuclear programme while leaving much of Tehran's missile infrastructure and proxy network intact.

That scepticism is reinforced by Trump's own governing style. Throughout his political career, the president has shown a preference for headline-grabbing announcements over lengthy technical negotiations. Associates have described his impatience with tedious diplomatic processes, which he has often sometimes characterised as "boring" or unnecessarily prolonged. The Iran issue is resisting quick fixes.

Neither side trusts the other. Iran remains convinced that Washington could abandon any deal, just as Trump abandoned Obama's nuclear deal. US questions whether Tehran would comply with inspection requirements or limits on uranium enrichment. The result is a stalemate.

7.8-quake in Philippines kills 35, sparks tsunami

200 Injured; Landslide Triggered; Many Buildings Collapse

AP

Rescuers inspect the damage after an earthquake in General Santos, Philippines, on Monday

Davao (Philippines): An offshore earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 hit the southern Philippines on Monday, killing at least 35 people, injuring more than 200 others mostly in ruined buildings and sending a 3-foot tsunami into nearby coasts. Several mostly low-rise buildings collapsed or sustained heavy damages in the hard-hit city of General Santos. Tsunami damage was reported in at least one southern coastal village. Smaller waves were measured in Indonesia and Palau and as far away as southern Japan.

The quake also triggered a landslide in Glan, a municipality in the province of Sarangani, that killed 13 villagers, Rene Punzalan, a provincial disaster-mitigation official, told the DZBB radio network. Four other villagers died in Sarangani, he said.

"Our pickup truck suddenly jerked and I thought we had a flat tyre," Rod Sosmeña, a regional director of the office of civil defence, said from General Santos, where he was travelling when the quake struck at 7.37am (local time). "The shaking was strong and people dashed out of houses into the streets," Sosmena said.

More than 100 students in uniforms and a dozen teachers had gathered for a flag-raising ceremony in a coconut tree-ringed grade school compound in the rural town of Malita in Davao Occidental province when the ground shook, turning the first day of school after a two-month summer break. "Their excitement on the first day of school turned to trauma," school principal Rosavel Cachuela said..

At least four people remained missing in General Santos, a port city of more than 700,000 people and a regional hub for the tuna export industry. Search and rescue teams worked to find people who may have been trapped, officials said. The international airport in General Santos was temporarily shut due to the earthquake and 17 domestic flights were cancelled, the civil aviation authority of the Philippines said.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. ordered the cancellation of classes and directed disaster-response agencies to work in quake-hit provinces, saying "the national govt is moving and we will not leave Mindanao behind."

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said the threat of a tsunami passed about five hours after the quake. Officials also lifted a tsunami warning by mid-afternoon. Aside from the landslide in Sarangani, most of the other deaths were caused by collapsing buildings and falling debris, according to Sosmeña and another disaster-mitigation official, Ednar Dayanghirang.

The quake was also felt in Malaysia's Sabah state. Sabah is just a boat ride away from southern Philippines. An 83The Philippines is often hit by earthquakes and volcanic eruptions due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of seismic faults around the ocean. The archipelago is battered by about 20 typhoonsstorms each year, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. AP

Houthis threaten ban on Israeli ships in Red Sea

Aden: Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis said Monday that they would ban Israeli maritime navigation in the Red Sea, adding to challenges for global shipping. The group said in a statement it had launched an attack on Israel and enacted a total ban on Israeli shipping in Red Sea, warning of further escalation. The Red Sea, leading to the Suez canal, is a key shipping lane in its own right, and during the Iran war has become the main alternative outlet for millions of barrels per day of West Asia oil sent by pipeline bypassing the Gulf. REUTERS

Defying Trump briefly, Israel seeks sway over peace talks

Jerusalem: In launching renewed strikes on Iran on Monday in apparent open defiance of President Trump, Israel has tried to make its case to have a say at the peace negotiating table, where it has so far been kept at arm's length by Trump.

In launching the strikes, Israel had sent a message to Washington that no final agreement with Iran can be reached if Israel's interests are ignored, said Danny Orbach, a military historian.

After Israel's strike on Lebanon on Sunday, and Iran's decision to fire at Israel in response, Trump made clear he believed that should be the end of the matter. But Israel concluded that only by striking Iran itself in response could it establish that Iran should not be granted future say over Israeli actions in Lebanon.

One goal was to establish that any future US-Iran deal would not remove Israel's right to attack Hezbollah, an official said. In a statement, Netanyahu said Israel would respond with force if Iran attacks it again. "I say this to you," Netanyahu said to the Israeli public, "as I say it with respect in my good conversations with my friend President Trump." REUTERS

WEST ASIA: CRISIS. RESET. REPEAT

A fragile truce in West Asia shattered overnight—and was restored—after strikes triggered a brief missile exchange

148 Indians languish in B'desh jails even after completing their sentences: Official

Dhaka: A prison official in Bangladesh said on Monday that 152 foreigners, including 148 Indians, were languishing in the country's jails even though they had completed their jail terms, according to prison statistics published six months ago.

The official, who preferred to remain anonymous, said the identification process alongside bureaucratic or diplomatic inaction prolonged their captivity. He said a large number of the Indian inmates were detained on charges such as illegal cross-border entry.

Bdnews24.com on Monday reported that 17 Indians continued to languish in the southwestern Shariatpur District Jail alone. The inmates could not be released as their identities remain unverified, while repeated attempts to contact the Indian embassy yielded no response, the report said.

Jailer Papiya Sultana told the outlet that police had detained 20 people at different times near the Padma Bridge, and they were later sent to prison on court orders. "Among them, Indian nationals, identified as Satyendra Kumar and Babul Singh, died in jail on Feb 2, 2024, while another inmate, known only as Rajan, died on May 29, 2025," she said.

Prison officials in Dhaka said apart from India, inmates awaiting repatriation include citizens of Pakistan, Myanmar and Nigeria. PTI

Trump's $100k H-1B visa fee unlawful: US court

Boston: A federal judge on Monday struck down a $100,000 fee that US President Donald Trump imposed on new H-1B visas for highly skilled foreign workers, concluding that it constituted an unlawful tax that Congress never authorised.

US district judge Leo Sorokin in Boston issued the ruling in a lawsuit filed by 20 Democratic state attorneys general challenging a fee Trump announced in Sept that dramatically raised the cost of obtaining H-1B visas.

The H-1B programme offers 65,000 visas annually, with another 20,000 visas for workers with advanced degrees, approved for three to six years. Employers seeking a visa for a foreign worker before Trump's proclamation typically paid about $2,000 to $5,000 in fees depending on various factors. The increase in fees has discouraged H-1B visa requests, according to court filings. As of Feb 15, US citizenship and immigration services had received 85 payments of the $100,000 fee, the administration said in a March filing.

The administration argued that the fee constituted a penalty that the president had authority to impose under immigration law to curb the entry of certain foreign nationals. But the judge said that the fee was not a penalty but a tax that the president lacked any authorisation from Congress to issue. "Here, the substance and application of the $100,000 payment reveal that it is a tax, regardless of what the payment is called," he wrote. REUTERS

Ahead of football WC, stabbing in NY leaves 6 hurt

New York: Six people were wounded Sunday in a stabbing at New York's Penn Station, the city's mayor said, as the metropolitan area geared up to host two major sporting events — the NBA Finals and football's World Cup. A suspect was detained and the victims, including one with serious injuries, were transported to a hospital, according to the New York fire department.

Fire department officials initially reported five wounded, but mayor Zohran Mamdani said on X that, "based on the information available right now, six people were stabbed and the alleged perpetrator is in custody." Circumstances of the attack were not clear, but city comptroller Mark Levine said on X that the suspect is "said to be an emotionally disturbed homeless person" AFP

Xi and Kim for greater ties between China & N Korea

Seoul: Chinese President Xi Jinping and North Korean supreme leader Kim Jong Un underscored their commitment to deepen cooperation in a closely watched summit on Monday, as Xi made a rare visit to Pyongyang in a likely attempt to reassert Beijing's unique influence over its socialist neighbour. It's Xi's first visit to North Korea in seven years.

In a summit on Monday, Xi expressed China's willingness to expand cooperation in a wide range of areas including trade, agriculture and technology, China's state broadcaster CCTV said.

Xi said the two countries should strengthen strategic cooperation and firmly safeguard their respective sovereignty, according to the report. Kim said Xi's visit "demonstrates how unbreakable" the North Korean-China relationship is, CCTV said. It cited Kim as saying that consolidating a new era of friendship between the two countries is the "unchanging strategic choice" of North Korea. Foreign experts earlier predicted the meeting would have big ramifications on bilateral ties, as they both seek to fully restore their alliance in the face of confrontations with the US. AP

AP

Chinese President Xi Jinping and North Korea's Kim Jong-un in Pyongyang on Monday

UK set to ban 'harmful' social media for U-16s

London: British PM Keir Starmer is set to announce a ban on "harmful" online platforms for children under 16 while maintaining access to some safer forms of social media, Times newspaper reported on Monday. Starmer is said to have decided to proceed with curbs after speaking to bereaved parents and considering evidence from Australia, which brought in a ban for under-16s last Dec.

Asked about the report, a govt source said: "The PM is not afraid about taking on the tech companies." A source said a formal ban was unlikely to come this week. Govt could immediately give details on efforts to prevent children from producing sexualised images online which can be used for sextortion purposes. REUTERS

DAILY PLANET

AFP

People celebrate 'Tomatina' festival in Sutamarchan, Colombia, on Sunday

A Japanese city shuts 94 schools as bear roams streets

A bear roaming the streets of a Japanese city for three days forced the closure of nearly 100 schools on Monday, as dozens of hunters and officials searched for the animal. The city govt of Utsunomiya, north of Tokyo, closed all 94 public primary and junior high schools in the area after receiving more than 10 reports of bear sightings since Saturday — including in a shopping arcade. "We have vehicles out to areas where a bear was seen to make people aware and to urge people to stay indoors or in vehicles," a city official told AFP, adding that dozens of hunters, police and local officials have been looking for the animal. It was not clear whether there is one bear or more, he said, speaking on the customary condition of anonymity. In recent years, Japan has seen an increasing number of bear sightings and attacks, especially in urban areas. A record 13 people were killed by bears in Japan last year, and there has been a jump in encounters as the animals emerge hungry from hibernation. In Utsunomiya, a regional capital and home to 510,000 residents, there were just two unconfirmed bear sightings in the previous year.

Women detained in Afghanistan's Herat in clothing crackdown

Afghan residents in the western city of Herat have told AFP of witnessing multiple women detained by the Taliban govt's morality police, in a crackdown over clothing which has drawn criticism from the UN. The UN mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) said Sunday it was "concerned over multiple arrests and detentions of women in Herat Afghanistan for alleged non-compliance with dress requirements". Taliban authorities rule according to a strict interpretation of Islamic law, and have gradually tightened restrictions on women since returning to power in Aug 2021. Women nationwide must be completely covered when they leave home, with many wearing a flowing abaya robe along with a Muslim headscarf and a face covering. In Herat, residents witnessed women being detained on Saturday for not wearing the body-cloaking chador or burqa.

PIO surges into LA mayoral runoff spot, triggering Trump's fury over 'stolen' election

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: Five days after polls closed in Los Angeles, Indian-American progressive Nithya Raman has staged a late surge to overtake Republican-backed celebrity candidate Spencer Pratt and move into second place in the race for mayor of America's second-largest city, setting up what increasingly looks like a Nov runoff against incumbent mayor Karen Bass, and triggering another Trump tantrum.

Should Raman ultimately defeat Pratt and then overcome Bass in Nov, she would become the first Indian-American mayor of Los Angeles, America's second largest city. The prospect is particularly striking because it comes amid a broader rise in Indian-origin politicians in American urban politics, including Zohran Mamdani's election as Mayor of NYC, the largest US city. Incidentally, Kamala Harris, who remains the highest-ranking elected official of Indian heritage in American history, has endorsed Raman's rival Karen Bass.

As late-counted mail-in ballots steadily chipped away at Pratt's election-night lead, Trump took to social media to denounce the California process, writing, "No way this could have happened. Rigged Election!" In another post on Truth Social, he wrote: "Has anybody been watching the CROOKED Election going on in California. Two great Republican Candidates are being cheated, and so is America." He added that if Democrats succeeded, "great trouble and consternation will follow".

Getty Images via AFP

Nithya Raman has moved into second place in the race for mayor

For Trump and his MAGA faithful, some of whom falsely claimed that Raman had actually conceded the race, the turnaround is a Democratic scam. For election administrators , it is entirely predictable.

California mails ballots to all registered voters and accepts ballots postmarked by Election Day. Every signature must be verified, and voters are given opportunities to correct mismatches and clerical errors. The result is a system designed to maximise participation and accuracy, but one that often takes days or even weeks to produce final results.

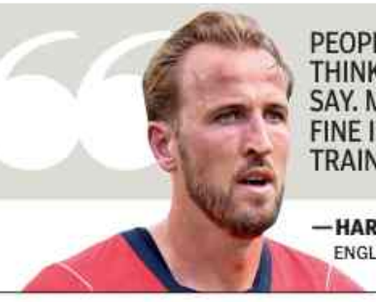
The phenomenon is so common that analysts have a name for it: the "red mirage". Republicans often appear stronger on election night in many parts of the country because many Democratic-leaning mail ballots from urban areas are counted later. California officials say the pattern visible in Los Angeles this week is neither unusual nor evidence of fraud.

In this instance, Pratt appeared comfortably ahead of Raman on election night in the battle for the second runoff slot. But every subsequent batch of mail ballots has broken in Raman's favour. By Sunday evening she had moved ahead by 3,000 votes, according to the latest tallies, with many ballots still left to process.

Ironically, Trump's criticism frequently invokes comparisons with "Third World countries," arguing that America should be able to count votes more quickly. Yet many developing democracies – including India – conduct election far more efficiently than the U.S. India's Election Commission routinely manages hundreds of millions of voters across a vast nation and typically completes counting within a day. California's more decentralised and litigation-conscious process prioritises ballot verification and voter protections over speed, creating delays that regularly become fodder for partisan disputes.

Born into a Tamil family in Kerala, Raman moved to Louisiana as a child, studied political theory at Harvard University and urban planning at MIT, and later returned to India, where she founded Transparent Chennai, a civic research initiative focused on sanitation and urban governance. She became a naturalised American citizen at age 22 before eventually settling in Los Angeles. She later won a seat on the Los Angeles City Council and emerged as one of the city's leading progressive voices.

GOAL RUSH
11 Jun 2026 – 19 Jul 2026
TIMES SPORT | THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026



"PEOPLE TALK ABOUT THE HEAT BUT I DON'T THINK IT WILL BE A BIG FACTOR AS PEOPLE SAY. MYSELF AND A FEW OF THE BOYS FELT FINE IN THE FIRST GAME AND WE'VE BEEN TRAINING IN IT AND IT'S NOT BEEN TOO BAD."

—HARRY KANE
ENGLAND CAPTAIN

WINNERS' CURSE

WHY THE MIGHTY KEEP FALLING

When It Is Time To Defend Their Title, Champions Find Themselves Battling Age, Fatigue & Football's Unforgiving Evolution

Nilesh.Bhattacharya
@timesofindia.com

Getty Images

2014
The German team congratulates Mario Goetze (19) for his winner in the final

2018
Toni Kroos cuts a lonely figure after Germany were ousted by South Korea

Ohne Worte! Sometimes, if the adage is altered a bit, just two words can be enough to paint a picture. Or, maybe given the context, 'no words' are required at all!

In a span of four years, *Bild*, that rambunctious, opinion-forming and hugely popular tabloid newspaper in Germany, had splashed two banner headlines across its front page with the same two words — '*Ohne Worte*', meaning no words or speechless in German. The first one — published on July 9, 2014 — ran across a boisterous Toni Kroos being lifted aloft by Sami Khedira against the backdrop of a 7-1 scoreline as Germany moved closer to lifting the world football's ultimate crown for the fourth time and left Brazil to carry the burden of a forever haunting '*Mineirazo*'.

Four years later — on June 28, 2018 — the tabloid served up the same headline spreading again across the frame of Kroos, but this time, the German veteran was standing on his own, hands on hip and looking downcast and defeated. The '0-2' scoreline seen in the background was self-explanatory — Germany, the defending world champions, exited at the group stage itself with a stunning loss to South Korea and both goals conceded in stoppage time.

In the theatre of dreams as exalting as the World Cup, surprise often comes to express itself unapologetically. A Germany that flaunted its envied culture of planning, potency and a fiery team spirit on way to the coveted reward at the Maracana now looked speechless at Russia's Kazan Arena, confronting a situation so destructive of reason. Manuel Neuer, who was hailed for giving a whole new meaning to the concept of a sweeper-keeper four years ago, became a subject of ridicule for the way he abandoned his area, went up to the Korean box, lost possession and ended up allowing Son Heung-min to score his team's second goal.

Football and its 'peripeteia' moments

From suffering to salvation, the game constantly creates itself. This sudden and swift reversal of fortune is what Aristotle had described as 'peripeteia'. In modern football, we call it a 'winner's curse'.

In the long, fabled history of the World Cup, only twice have the champions defended their crown. When Italy did it in 1938, the third World Cup was a straight four-game knockout tournament and they clinched it beating Hungary 4-2 in the final. In 1962, Brazil offset an early injury to Pele with the genius of Garrincha before rallying past Czechoslovakia 3-1 in the title-decider.

In 15 editions since, seven teams have come to lay their hands on the trophy but none could manage to retain it. Argentina (1990), Brazil (1998) and France (2022) came closest to bucking the trend but it stayed as a so-near-yet-so-far tale for them.

France's title defence in 2002 was so calamitous that FIFA eventually removed the automatic qualification rights of the title-holders for 2006 and onwards. Italy, traditionally a slow starter in World Cups, hardly woke up in 2010 and exited with two draws and one loss at the group phase.

Just like their title-winning run in 2010, Spain began their campaign four years later with a loss — a shocking 1-5 capitulation to the Netherlands. La Roja's fate was soon sealed with another loss to Chile next. And Germany — priding themselves on being 'Turniermannschaft' or a tournament team — tumbled at the group stage itself in 2018.

A nuanced phenomenon

Why do the defending champions falter so spectacularly four years after scaling the summit?

Taking teams' historical performance and ranking data into account, a model published by the famous investment bank Goldman Sachs has significantly reduced Argentina's chances of defending the title thanks to a 'winner's slump' effect — the tendency of a reigning champion to underperform at the following World Cup.

Four years is a long time and the 'been-there-done-that' factor often has a shelf life of its own. However, any understanding of such an anomalous phenomenon is more nuanced and multifaceted. In an information age, a winning team immediately becomes a subject of dissection by its opponents. Spain's tiki-taka under Vicente del Bosque in 2014 or Joaquim Loew-managed Germany's high-line swift combination style in 2018 lacked the earlier mystique, partly because the core of the team had aged and partly because the rivals had studied them more markedly and were better prepared to challenge them.

There's also a paradox called the innovator's dilemma at play here as coaches tend to refuse to stray from what has brought success to a project. Italy, Spain and Germany returned to defend the World Cup with the same managers, and yet, instead of putting a wager on the unproven, they came to exploit almost the same tried and trusted formula that had worked for them earlier.

So, Zinedine Zidane, the greatest of his era, was a shadow of his past for France in 2002 after missing the first two games through injury. A much slower Xavi and Iniesta failed to recreate the magic of 2010 against the fast-paced teams in Brazil under Del Bosque and Loew's decision to bank on the world-beaters while ignoring the hungry youngsters who had won the Confederations Cup a year ago, backfired in Russia.

Add to this the impact of psychological burnout. As Juergen Klinsmann once said: "For any team that won the World Cup, they go through so much stress, so much work, tension and exhaustion that to repeat it is almost impossible."

This will bring our focus back on two Lionels in Argentina's camp. Can manager Scaloni, who has decided to include 17 of the 26 players from his world-conquering side of 2022, go where the likes of Marcello Lippi, Del Bosque and Loew failed to reach? Can Messi, at 38 and with his body now showing signs of wear, reproduce a sense of deja vu in the US?

The world will be watching them with hope and a not-so-kinder history standing in their way.

DEFENDING CHAMPS ON THE SLIDE

Defending Champs	Group Stage	Result	Goals Scored
2002 France	Lost 2, Drawn 1	Finished **last**	0
2010 Italy	Lost 1, Drawn 2	Finished **last**	4
2014 Spain	Lost 2, Won 1	Finished **third**	4
2018 Germany	Lost 2, Won 1	Finished last	2

SO CLOSE YET SO FAR

FIFA World Cup champions who finished runners-up in the subsequent edition:

0 In 2002, France became the first defending champions to be eliminated from a World Cup without scoring a single goal.

5-1 The largest defeat suffered by a reigning champion in the first match of their title defence in World Cup history, when holders Spain were humiliated by the Netherlands in 2014.

1 When South Korea sent holders Germany packing from the 2018 World Cup with a 2-0 win, it was the first time the European giants lost a match to an Asian team.

KNOW GROUP H

Country	Best finish	Path to finals
Spain	Winners (2010)	(UEFA) Winner of Group E
Cape Verde	No previous appearances	(CAF) Winner of Group D
Saudi Arabia	Round of 16 (1994)	(AFC) Fourth round Group B
Uruguay	Winners (1930, 1950)	(CONMEBOL) Fourth place

GROUP I

Country	Best finish	Path to finals
France	Winners (1998, 2018)	(UEFA) Winner of Group D
Senegal	Quarterfinals (2002)	(CAF) Winner of Group B
Iraq	Group Stage (1986)	Inter-confederation playoff Path 2 winners
Norway	Round of 16 (1998)	(UEFA) Group I

GROUP J

Country	Best finish	Path to finals
Argentina	Winners (1978, 1986, 2022)	(CONMEBOL) Qualifying winners
Algeria	Round of 16 (2014)	(CAF) Winners of Group G
Austria	Third Place (1954)	(UEFA) Winners Group H
Jordan	No previous appearances	(AFC) Third Round Runners-up Group B

THE FINAL WITHOUT CORNER FLAGS!

BACK PASS

Image: AI

Just before the 1974 World Cup final between West Germany and the Netherlands, officials discovered an embarrassing oversight. The stadium had no corner flags. Construction workers had forgotten to install them. Tens of thousands of spectators were waiting, television audiences around the world were tuned in but the biggest match in football could not be started. Kick-off was delayed while workers scrambled to place the flags. For 10 minutes, the World Cup final was held up by one of the simplest pieces of equipment in football.

Getty Images

HEROES' HERO: Firefighters take a selfie with Alphonso Davies as Team Canada arrives at Toronto City Airport

AWARD-WINNING SOMALI REFEREE DENIED ENTRY TO US: OFFICIAL

Mogadishu: Award-winning Somali referee Omar Artan, set to be the first from his country to officiate at the World Cup finals, was denied entry to the United States, a sports ministry official said on Monday.

It was not immediately clear why Artan was barred from entering the US at Miami International Airport, but Somalia is one of several countries on a travel ban list introduced by the Trump administration. "Omar Artan is among Africa's most respected referees and deserves the support of the entire football community," Ciise Aden Abshir, a senior advisor to Somalia's Ministry of Youth and Sports, said. Artan had a valid visa for the US. He has flown back to Istanbul. "Denying him entry to the US and preventing him from officiating scheduled matches harms not only him personally but also undermines football's commitment to fairness, merit, and fair play," he said.

He had officiated at the 2023 AFCON finals in Algeria. In 2025 he was named CAF men's referee of the year. AFP

Tuchel will go for the class of Jude

John Cross

When you read between the lines, it becomes glaringly obvious. Thomas Tuchel's latest messaging is about England having "14 potential starters."

If England can start with three extra players, then they really will win the World Cup.

What Tuchel surely means is that England have eight nailed-on starters and six vying for three positions: right-sided centre-half, leftwing and the No.10 role. A total of 14 ready to start. It is John Stones v Ezri Konsa for a place alongside Marc Guehi.

A straight shootout between Marcus Rashford and Anthony Gordon on the left. And, perhaps most intriguing of all... Jude Bellingham v Morgan Rogers for No.10.

The rest of the line-up to face Croatia on June 17 in Dallas will be: Jordan Pickford, Reece James, Guehi, Nico O'Reilly; Declan Rice, Elliot Anderson; Bukayo Saka and Harry Kane. And Bellingham must start. Even Tuchel admitted that he is in a 'sweet spot' of form.

Rogers has had a good season for Aston Villa. But when it comes to the real thing there can only be one winner. And that has to be Bellingham.

Bellingham was brilliant against New Zealand. Two different starting XIs, with the players then getting 45 minutes each. And maybe the tactic worked a treat. Rogers started the first half and, by the time Bellingham began the second, the Real Madrid superstar had something to prove. And, boy, did he do just that. He looked super-fit, sharp and just glided across the pitch. Anyone who thinks England are better off without Bellingham must be watching a different game. He was comfortably England's best player and, in this sort of mood and form, he will take the World Cup by storm. He also wore the captain's armband.

Furthermore, that freshness comes from having been out through injury (he was in the squad in March but only just coming back from a hamstring issue), being determined to be back and also not having run himself into the ground all season long. Tuchel has not always hit the right note when talking about Bellingham. And that's putting it mildly.

But he was glowing this time even if he said he was made captain because he had the most caps of the second half XI. Incredibly, Bellingham has 47 aged just 22. DAILY MIRROR

Fans in Mexico hurt by Iran team's visa woes

Tijuana: Iran's national football team was greeted Sunday in Mexico by a small group of supporters eager to give them a warm start to the World Cup, despite visa problems facing some staffers.

"I'm very excited to see them," said Sadegh Galavi as he watched the players' bus leave the airport in Tijuana, cheered on by about a dozen fans. Galavi, a mechanic and resident of this city on the US border, did not hesitate to get up at dawn to welcome the team when it landed at 5:00 am.

"My national team is coming to my city, and being here is a small thing I can do just to welcome them," the man in his thirties said, proudly wearing the white jersey with green and red trim of the Iranian side, known as 'Team Melli.' The gesture felt especially important because the tournament is beginning under difficult circumstances for Iran.

While the players obtained the visas necessary to enter the United States and play their group-stage matches in Los Angeles and Seattle, not all delegation members received them.

About 15 accompanying officials were denied visas, including Iranian football federation president Mehdi Taj, who previously served in Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, designated a terrorist group by Washington.

"It makes no sense to me," Galavi complained. "Sport is supposed to be a symbol of peace, so when you mix politics and sports, it doesn't work." AFP

Norway manager Solbakken slams 'unprofessional' Scotland

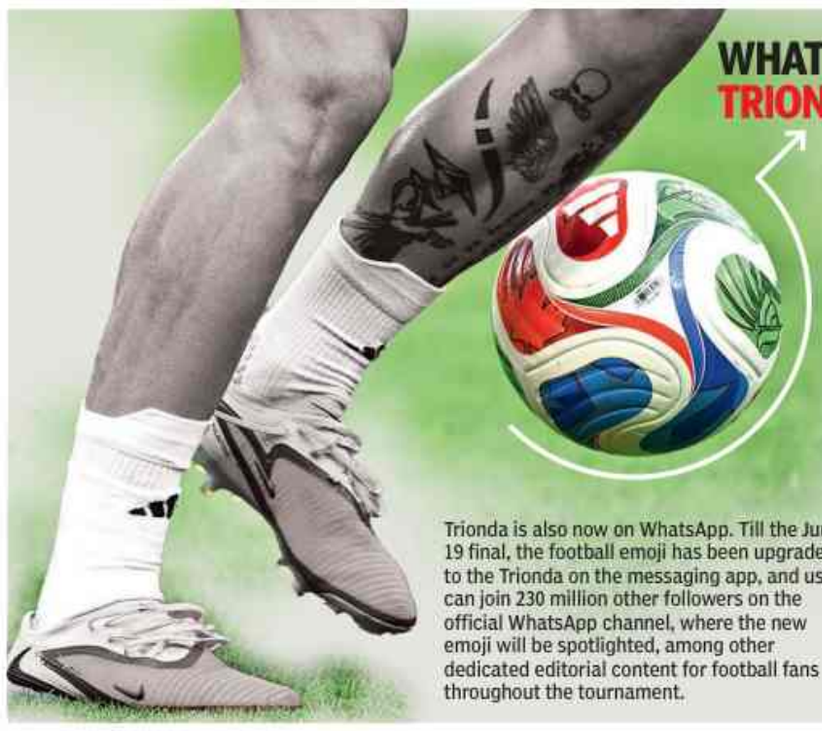
New Jersey: Norway manager Stale Solbakken criticized Scotland counterpart Steve Clarke on Monday, branding Scotland "unprofessional" after they cancelled a planned behind-closed-doors match. "It was just as surprising to me, and it is unprofessional of Scotland," he said. The Norwegian camp was notified of the cancellation late on Friday, forcing Solbakken to alter his tactical approach for Sunday's 1-1 draw against Morocco.

ERIKSEN 'EXPECTED' TO LEAVE HOSPITAL AFTER ON-FIELD COLLAPSE IN A FRIENDLY

Guadalajara: Christian Eriksen is 'in good spirits' and expected to leave the hospital soon after collapsing on the field playing for Denmark on Sunday.

"He is with his family and in good spirits. The expectation is that he will be discharged soon and can return home," national team physician Morten Boesen said.

Images: AI



WHAT MAKES THE TRIONDA SPECIAL?

First World Cup ball designed for three host nations

- The name combines **"Tri"** (three hosts: USA, Canada, Mexico) and **"Onda"** (Spanish for wave/vibe).
- Its **red, green and blue** graphics represent the three host countries.
- The design includes symbols such as a maple leaf, eagle and star.

IMPROVED GRIP
- The textured polyurethane surface and embossed details are designed to provide better grip and control, particularly in wet or humid conditions.

ONLY FOUR PANELS
- TRIONDA has a revolutionary four-panel construction, the fewest panels ever used on a World Cup ball.
- Adidas says the deeper seams and panel geometry improve aerodynamic stability and make the ball's flight more predictable.

SMART BALL TECHNOLOGY
- A built-in 500Hz motion sensor chip tracks every touch and movement in real time.
- The ball communicates with VAR and semi-automated offside systems, helping officials make quicker and more accurate decisions.

IT NEEDS CHARGING
- Because of the sensor inside, the match ball must be charged before games.
- This is one of the most technologically advanced balls ever used at a World Cup.

Trionda is also now on WhatsApp. Till the June 19 final, the football emoji has been upgraded to the Trionda on the messaging app, and users can join 230 million other followers on the official WhatsApp channel, where the new emoji will be spotlighted, among other dedicated editorial content for football fans throughout the tournament.

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SNAP SHOTS

Origi retires from football

Liverpool cult hero Divock Origi has announced his retirement from football at the age of 31. The former Belgium striker cemented his place in the history of six-time European Cup winners Liverpool in 2019. He scored twice in a memorable 4-0 comeback Champions League semi-final win over Barcelona, after the English giants lost the first leg 3-0, and then in the final victory over Tottenham Hotspur. In total, Origi scored 41 goals in 175 Liverpool appearances, only 68 of which were starts.

Stokes, Atkinson under investigation: England cricket captain Ben Stokes and teammate Gus Atkinson are being investigated by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), for a "breach of team protocols" in a nightclub incident after the first Test against New Zealand. "Ben Stokes and Gus Atkinson were present at a nightclub in the early hours of Monday morning when an incident took place. We are currently seeking further information, and an announcement regarding the squad for the second Test will be made in due course," the ECB said.

Shashikesh gets new ban: Sprinter Shashikesh Kumar has been handed a second three-year suspension by NADA's Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP), for competing while serving a prior ban. His fresh suspension period will start from Jan 9, 2027, the day his first suspension ends. Another athlete, Kajal, has been handed a five-year ban while Ramandeep Kaur was banned for two years. A minor each in weightlifting (five years) and wrestling (four years) have also been suspended. Weightlifter Arockiya Alish was banned for four years. Wrestlers Saket Yadav (four years), Deepak (one year) and Radhika (four years) were also suspended.

Fulmali, Shreyanka, Radha shine: Bharti Fulmali, Shreyanka Patil and Radha Yadav starred as India beat West Indies by 26 runs in their first warm-up match of the Women's T20 World Cup in Cardiff on Monday. Fulmali made a fine unbeaten 56 to power India to 179/8. **Brief scores: India: 179/8 in 20 overs** (Fulmali 56 n.o., Smriti 39, Yashika 36; Fletcher 4-23) bt **West Indies: 153/8 in 20 overs** (Dottin 49, Campbelle 25; Shreyanka 4-36, Radha returning 3-25)

Ind-Eng T20I matches to start early: The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has advanced the start time of all five T20Is against India by an hour, with the matches now scheduled to begin at 10 pm IST to maximise television viewership in the subcontinent, according to a media report. The five T20Is between the two former World Cup winners were earlier slated for an 11 pm IST (6.30 pm local time) start, ESPNCricinfo reported.

Ahlawat ends tied 9th: Veer Ahlawat finished the Swiss Challenge with a bogey-free round of four-under 67 to end tied for ninth place in Lucerne, Switzerland. This week's show is Ahlawat's first top 10 finish of the season. He ended with a total score of 13-under par (69-61-74-67).

Rai finishes in top 20: Aaron Rai shot a two-under 70 in the final round to sign off a creditable tied for 19th at The Memorial Tournament in Dublin, Ohio. Rai logged a combined score of two-under par. JT Poston took the final day into a playoff to clinch his first title in 18 months.

India bag three gold: India capped a successful campaign at the Ulaanbaatar Open Senior Ranking Series wrestling, with Deepak (61kg), Sagar Jaglan (74kg) and Dinesh (125kg) winning gold medals in the men's freestyle event in Ulaanbaatar. India won seven medals in men's freestyle and took their overall tally to 17 medals for a top-three finish.

INDIA SCRIPT HISTORY, BY A MARGIN

'Project Suthar' Takes Off As Spinner's 7-Wkt Match Haul Fashions Demolition Of Afg

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com

New Chandigarh: It's very easy to lose Manav Suthar in the crowd. His unassuming demeanour on the cricket field doesn't quite convey how important he is to India's long-term plans to reclaim red-ball supremacy. He is part of a spin project that has been meticulously designed by the Indian cricket board (BCCI) over the last three years specifically for the longest format.

Now, after having been adjudged 'player of the match' on debut against Afghanistan in the one-off Test here, Suthar has become a name to reckon with. That India registered a win by an innings and 300 runs inside three days — their biggest win margin in Tests — felt secondary. It was never expected of an inexperienced Afghanistan team to push India here. For captain Shubman Gill and the team, the match was more about planning for the next nine months of Test cricket. The talk now is about accommodating Suthar in the XI even when India have all their spin resources available, especially with Ravindra Jadeja coming back.

ONE-OFF TEST

The team management, selection committee and the coaching staff at the Centre of Excellence (CoE) had seen enough of Suthar to know he will be the next spinner to be drafted into the Test team for the immediate future. His spell of 6/33 in the first innings, exhibiting all the guiles of conventional left-arm spin, to bowl Afghanistan out for 152 before lunch was enough to know why the caretakers of India's talent pipeline rate him so highly.

Suthar was given the new ball after Afghanistan were asked to follow on, before senior spinners Washington Sundar and Kuldeep Yadav were given decent spells. Washington and Kuldeep finished with 4/36 and 3/30 respectively to wrap up proceedings, bowling Afghanistan out for 112 in 35.5 overs. In the 94.2 overs India bowled in the match, Suthar unveiled all his armoury, even bringing out a lethal arm-ball to get his only wicket of the second innings.

AFP

DREAM DEBUT: Shubman Gill (right) hands over the trophy to Manav Suthar

INDIA'S BIGGEST TEST WINS

Margin	Opp.	Series
Inns & 300 runs	Afg	2026
Inns & 272 runs	WI	2018-19
Inns & 262 runs	Afg	2018

1 Afghanistan have suffered their biggest defeat in Tests. Their previous heaviest loss was also against India, by an innings and 262 runs, in Bengaluru in June 2018..
—Rajesh Kumar

Afghanistan's batting may not be at par with the quality of batters Suthar bowls to in domestic cricket. Yet, it was important for him to not lose control over his craft. For large parts of the Test, especially when the pitch offered only minimal slow turn on Day Two, Suthar emerged as a more potent option than Washington and Kuldeep.

Jadeja's bowling over the last couple of years has had the team management and selectors worried. His steady contributions with the bat in the middle order in England last year gave his career a new lease of life. In the background, though, Indian cricket has been preparing for life beyond Jadeja.

"Manav has been part of the system for three years. BCCI's system gave him exposure from Ranji Trophy to the Emerging India team, and then there was India 'A' and IPL," batting coach Sitanshu Kotak said after the Test before adding, "He bowled well but he batted really well too. That is actually very satisfying." It's well established that head coach Gautam Gambhir prefers players with dual skills.

In the build-up to this Test, the team management had announced that they were looking for a fourth spin option besides the regulars in Jadeja, Washington and Kuldeep. As things stand, Kuldeep's indifferent performances in the home season last year could also open up an opportunity for Suthar if India decide to play on presumably turning tracks in Sri Lanka in Aug. India's chances of qualifying for the WTC final may boil down to the five-Test Border-Gavaskar Trophy when Australia come visiting next Jan.

Indications are that India are reluctant to play on raging turners, where their batters have surrendered to overseas spin attacks twice in the last two years. The underwhelming returns from the spinners on a decent pitch in the last Test against South Africa in Guwahati last Nov have led to a demand for more potency in the spin attack. Suthar is a long-term project. It will be interesting to see how soon the Indian team management feels he is a first-choice spinner in the XI.

Brief scores: India: 564/8d bt **Afghanistan (o/n: 113/5) 152 all out in 58.4 overs** (Rahmat Shah 60; Prasidh Krishna 3-37, Manav Suthar 6-33) & **112 all out in 35.5 overs** (Sediqullah Atal 42; Kuldeep Yadav 3-30, Washington Sundar 4-36).

'Rohit, Hardik should be fine'

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com

New Chandigarh: The Indian team management expects **Rohit Sharma** and Hardik Pandya to join the ODI team for the three-match series against Afghanistan, which starts in Dharamshala on June 13.

Rohit and Hardik are due to get fitness clearance from BCCI's medical team at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. Both were picked for the series subject to passing fitness tests. Rohit missed a substantial part of the IPL due to a hamstring injury while the BCCI wants to verify if Hardik is fit enough to bowl 10 overs in an ODI.

ODI SERIES

"I've honestly not got the news whether they have been cleared or not, but I'm sure they'll be there. Whatever I heard, they are fine. But they have to go and do that fitness test or whatever the rule is. Before coming here (for the press conference), I have not asked the physio whether when they were actually going," India's batting coach Sitanshu Kotak said on Monday, adding, "The ODI players will join the team here and there may be a light practice day after tomorrow evening," he added.

TOI understands that Rohit was due to go to CoE on Monday while Hardik has been there since June 2.

Vaibhav reminds McGrath of Lara

Diptayan.Hazra @timesofindia.com

PTI

Chennai: Australian pace legend Glenn McGrath heaped praise on teenage batting sensation **Vaibhav Sooryavanshi**, comparing his batting style to some of the greatest names in cricket.

McGrath, who is the director of coaching at the MRF Pace Foundation, said Sooryavanshi's fearless approach and distinctive backlift reminded him more of West Indies legends than Indian icon Sachin Tendulkar.

CRICKET

"You probably look at someone like Brian Lara with that backlift. You look back and Garry Sobers is another one who comes to mind," McGrath said on the sidelines of a practice session.

McGrath admitted he was amazed by the youngster's IPL exploits. "He was incredible. Normally players have more fours than sixes, but he had 72 sixes and 63 fours. He's obviously a powerful hitter and has definitely changed the game. "They have no fear, do they? They don't care whether it's Pat Cummins bowling. If it's there, he just hits through it," the former Australian quick added.

However, McGrath said he would be keen to see how Sooryavanshi fares outside the subcontinent. "If he does go and play in England or Australia, I'd be interested to see how he does there."

McGrath also lauded the MRF Pace Foundation products Praful Hinge and Sakib Hussain, both of whom made notable contributions for Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL. "I was very impressed with all of them. Sakib played a lot of games and took some good wickets. For Praful, three wickets in his first over, it doesn't get much better than that," he said.

'Now that I've won it, I feel like I can do it again'

THE TIMES OF INDIA AT ROLAND GARROS

Prajwal.Hegde@timesofindia.com

Alexander Zverev believes one Grand Slam title may be the start of something bigger. The 29-year-old German, the world No. 3, arrived at Sunday's French Open final against Italy's Flavio Cobolli having won an Olympic gold medal, two ATP Finals and seven Masters 1000 crowns. What he did not have was a Grand Slam trophy. Roland Garros 2026 changed that.

"No matter what happens now, I will always be a Grand Slam champion, and nobody can take that away from me," he said. "Maybe, that gives me some freedom, maybe my mind will just be a little bit calmer when I play a final, meaning that even if I lose it, I will still be a Grand Slam champion. Now that I've won it, I feel like I can do it again."

FRENCH OPEN

Zverev has been one of the most consistent performers at the top of the men's game, demonstrating a willingness to challenge Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz, particularly as the 39-year-old Novak Djokovic has scaled back his schedule. The world No. 3, with 7,305 ranking points, sits more than 2,000 points behind No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz, who has been sidelined by injury since April, while maintaining a similar cushion over fourth-ranked Felix Auger-Aliassime.

AFP

ONE FOR THE ALBUM: Alexander Zverev celebrates with ball boys and girls

It felt inevitable that Zverev would eventually find himself on one of the sport's biggest stages without Sinner or Alcaraz standing across the net. The lingering question, however, is how he can convert his consistency into multiple Grand Slam titles. "I've managed the last two weeks extremely well, because with all the losses that happened early on with Jannik going out, Novak going out, I managed to stay composed. I feel like I was playing really good tennis," he said of the Roland Garros fortnight. "But then in the final I didn't manage so well, I was a lot more nervous." "That's why I say the cramps helped me in a way, because my mind let go," he said of the fourth set. "I started swinging more freely, I started hitting the ball a bit more aggressively. That's because of the cramps, I couldn't focus on being tight anymore. I had to kind of let go."

For all of Zverev's accomplishments on court, questions about his conduct have followed him throughout much of his career. The two domestic violence allegations made against him remain recurring reference points in discussions of his rise, particularly the second allegation made by former partner Brenda Patea, the mother of his child. Patea pursued the matter through the courts, but the case was terminated in 2024 following a reported out-of-court settlement.

Concerns about Zverev's behaviour were also heightened by an unrelated but highly public display of misconduct at the 2022 Mexican Open in Acapulco. After losing an opening-round doubles match alongside Marcelo Melo, Zverev reacted furiously, repeatedly striking umpire Alessandro Germani's chair with his racket. He was defaulted from the tournament and forfeited all prize money and ranking points earned there.

His career has also been defined by significant physical challenges. Diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes as a child, Zverev has spent his professional life managing a condition that demands constant monitoring and discipline. In 2022, he suffered a devastating ankle injury on Court Philippe-Chatrier during a gripping French Open semifinal against Rafael Nadal. After rolling his ankle in a second-set tie-break, he was forced to retire from the match, later undergoing surgery and missing the remainder of the season.

Admired by many of his peers and embraced by much of the Paris crowd, Zverev has finally secured the Grand Slam title that long eluded him. Yet even in victory, he remains one of the most complex figures in the sport.

Sindhu, Ayush lead Indian challenge

ANI

KEY CONTENDER: Ayush Shetty

Sydney: Two-time Olympic-medallist PV Sindhu will look to end a prolonged title drought, while rising star Ayush Shetty will spearhead India's men's singles campaign at the Australian Open Super 500 badminton tournament beginning here on Tuesday.

Sindhu, seeded third, enters the tournament with a favourable draw as she searches for her first BWF World Tour title since winning the Syed Modi International in 2024. The former world champion's best result this season remains a semifinal finish at the Malaysia Open in Jan.

The 30-year-old will open against Peru's Ines Lucia Castillo and is likely to face the winner of the first-round

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

clash between fellow Indian Isharani Barua and China's Han Qian Xi.

India will have a sizeable presence in the women's singles draw as Tanvi Sharma faces fifth-seeded Chiu Pin-Chian of Chinese Taipei, while Malvika Bansod takes on Malaysia's Goh Jin Wei. Anmol Kharb has been handed a tough opener against former world champion and fourth seed Nozomi Okuhara of Japan. Aakarshi Kashyap faces Malaysia's Wong Ling Ching, while Tanya Hemanth takes on USA's Ishika Jaiswal.

In men's singles, world No. 20 Ayush Shetty, seeded sixth, will begin against a qualifier as he seeks a good run after a pre quarterfinal exit at the Indonesia Open last week. Former world championships bronze-medallist HS Prannoy opens against Indonesia's Moh.

Zaki Uba, while world No. 49 Kiran George will face Malaysia's Justin Hoh in the first round. India's challenge in men's doubles will rest on two pairs. Hariharan Amsakarunan and M.R. Arjun, who are fresh from a quarterfinal appearance at the Indonesia Open, face eighth-seeded Chinese Taipei duo Lee Fang-Chih and Lee Fang-Jen.

Achutaditya Rao Doddavarapu and Pochana Arjun Reddy will take on China's Huang Di and Liu Yang.

In mixed doubles, sixth-seeded Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto will open against Hong Kong's Chan Yin Chak and Ng Tsz Yau. PTI

Swastic Union (1) triumph

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Swastic Union Cricket Club (1) secured a 118-run win over Wilson Garden in the pre-quarterfinal of the KSCA Senior Women's T20 Tournament here recently.

Put in to bat, SUCC (1) batter Andrea Michelle Lobo led the charge with an unbeaten 96 off 63 balls, which was laced with 15 fours. They finished with 177/1 in 20 overs as Advika also chipped in with 41 runs. Aaradhya Mallik starred with four wickets for SUCC as Wilson Garden were bundled out for 59.

WOMEN'S T20

Brief scores: Swastic Union (1): 177/1 in 20 overs (Advika 41, Andrea Lobo 96) bt **Wilson Garden: 59 in 14.3 overs** (Lavanya M 2-13, Vaishnavi Hunashyala 3-5, Aaradhya Mallik 4-3).

Vijaya CC, Malur: 35 in 13.1 overs (Prathiksha C 2-6, Monika D 2-7, Saanvi Iyer 2-2) lost to **Coles: 36 no loss in 3.2 overs** (Stuthi M 24) **Palar SC, Kolar: 246/5 in 20 overs** (Myra Jain 33, Vrinda 65, BG Tejashwini 44, Prathyusha Challuru 38; Hamsinee Arun 2-48, Novinaa T 3-37) bt **Minerva: 53/9 in 20 overs** (Priya Chavan 2-17, Prathyusha 3-8).

Friends Union (1): 200/3 in 20 overs (Shubha S 26, Krishika Reddy 45, Chandasi K 89) bt **Young Lions Club: 90/6 in 20 overs** (Pranathi KS 48; Ananya Hegde 2-11). **Vultures: 104/7 in 20 overs** (Prakruthi N Gopalkrishna 27, Annapurna Bhosale 41; Komal 2-11) bt **Sir Syed Cricketers: 103 in 20 overs** (Tanushree M 41; Sahana S Pawar 2-20, Chinmayi Shivanand 3-19, Aadya 2-3). **Cambridge: 110/5 in 20 overs** (Rimjhim Shukla 54, Saanvi HR 23; Poojitha G 2-15) lost to **Vijaya: 111/5 in 11.4 overs** (Mansi More 50, Shreya B Pote 25; Sharvari R Shetty 2-46, Ganavi R 3-3).

Rajajinagar Cricketers: 99 in 19 overs (Niki Prasad 37, Lavanya Chalana 27; Subhra Majumder 2-19, Deeksha J 2-25, Maria Francica 2-15, Nandani Chauhan 2-5) lost to **Swastic Union (2): 103/1 in 12.1 overs** (Yashika Gowda 48, Nandani 38).

Jawans: 83/7 in 20 overs (Nesara Girish 29; Rameshwari 2-9, Pavitra 3-14) lost to **South End SC: 84/2 in 10.5 overs** (Monica C Patel 44, Aditi R 25).

AIFF accepts club-led model

Marcus.Mergulhao@timesofindia.com

Panaji: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) accepted a club-led model to run the Indian Super League (ISL) from next season at a meeting convened by sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi on Monday.

The agreement will be for four years with each club paying Rs 1.1 crore every season. Should all 14 teams take part,

IN FOCUS

AIFF will receive Rs 15.4 crore, which can be used to cover the costs associated with the regulatory functions that federation is required to discharge in its capacity as the governing body, including refereeing, legal, integrity and anti-doping support.

"It was a good meeting," a senior club official told TOI after two separate meetings with the sports minister and later AIFF officials. "The clubs got what they wanted. Now the plan is to ensure that the (league) structure is constitutionally compliant and operates entirely within the framework of the AIFF Constitution and AFC/FIFA regulations." According to sources, AIFF was keen on receiving upwards of Rs 20 crore from the participating clubs. But clubs, bolstered by support from the sports ministry and the stand of owners, stuck to their guns.

Except for Jamshedpur FC, all clubs attended the meeting with the sports minister. Newly-promoted Diamond Harbour were also in attendance, though with the Kolkata-based club under investigation for illegal practices and finances, there is no confirmation on their participation. Should action be initiated against the Indian Football League (IFL) champions, the league will go ahead with 13 teams.

Federer to return for exhibition tie

Roger Federer will return to the US Open this year for an exhibition match, seven years after his last appearance at the Grand Slam in 2019, the event organisers said on Monday. Federer, who is the only player to win five consecutive US Open titles, will headline an event titled "Roger Federer: An Icon Returns to New York" on Aug 25. He will be joined by 2003 US Open champion Andy Roddick, as well as Andre Agassi and John McEnroe. "

The US Open has always been one of the most special tournaments for me," the 44-year-old said in a statement. REUTERS

Shubhang, Macneil power Cambridge

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Shubhang Hegde and Macneil Noronha scored centuries as they helped Cambridge Cricket Club register a 158-run victory against Jayanagar Cricketers in the pre-quarterfinal of the KSCA YS Ramaswamy Memorial Trophy here recently. Put in to bat, Cambridge rode on Macneil and Shubhang's fine knocks to post 308/7 in 50 overs. While Shubhang top-scored with an unbeaten 116 off 110 balls, laced with 13 fours and 2 sixes, Macneil made 111 off 111 balls with 15 fours and 3 sixes.

In reply, Jayanagar folded up for 150 in 34.4 overs. Advith Shetty led the attack with a three-wicket haul, while both Shubhang and Macneil rounded off all-round efforts, pocketing two wickets each.

Brief scores: Cambridge: 308/7 in 50 overs (Macneil Noronha 111, Shubhang Hegde 116, Gourav K 30; Suhas Purushotham 2-51, Sourab Muttur 4-52) bt **Jayanagar Cricketers: 150 in 34.4 overs** (S Chaitanya 42, Saharsh Reddy 49; Advith Shetty 3-37, Shubhang 2-21, Noronha 2-10).

Palar SC, Kolar: 247 in 42.3 overs (Chiranth D 73, Preetesh 56, Ritesh Bhatkal 37, Ambresh K 50; Shreyas Gopal 4-50, Nischith Rao 2-24, Bhimrao Navale 3-13) drew with **Swastic Union (1): 247 in 50 overs** (Rohan Patil 57, Sanmay Rudrawadi 44, Navale 53; Gagan L 2-43, Ambresh 2-14). **Super Over: Swastic: 15 for no loss bt Palar: 8 for no loss.**

Mount Joy: 220/9 in 50 overs (Samarth Srinivas 64, Gagandeep K 27; Yashovardhan Parantap 3-43, Samit Dravid 2-32) lost to **Vijaya: 221/4 in 41.5 overs** (Tushar Singh 96, Dhruv P 42, Dravid 30; Chiranth S 2-56).

Herons: 301 in 50 overs (Prajwal Pavan 25, Sanjay Ashwin 28, Surendra Rathore 100 (99b; 12x4, 1x6), Mohammed Waseef 32, Jayanth MR 39, Jullian Edward 42; Vidwath Kaverappa 2-47, Kumar LR 5-54, Samyak Vellalore 2-49) bt **Sir Syed Cricketers: 152/6 in 34.5 overs** (Nikin Jose 31, Mohith BA 53; Aditya Mani 3-29, Bhargav S 2-28) via VJD method.

Bangalore Occasionals: 283/8 in 50 overs (Suraj Ahuja 55, Kranthi Kumar 128 (132b; 7 x 4), Shreesha Achar 26; Ajay Bhide 3-49, Vidhur Reddy 2-55, Kuldeep Purohit 2-56) bt **Chintamani SA: 245/7 in 50 overs** (Aaron Christie 54, Revanth Bairy 57, Pranav Babu 58; Naveen MG 4-25).

Dooravani Cricketers (1): 192 in 45 overs (Keerthi M 85; Arbind Rai 2-37, Gowtham Sagar 2-16, Lankesh KS 2-28) lost to **Coles: 193/3 in 23.2 overs** (Chethana LR 90, Yuvraj A 70; Vineeth B 2-55). **Social Cricketers: 306 in 49.5 overs** (Aneesh KV 106 (83b; 9x4, 3x6), Aadarsh Prajwal 46, Vyshak V 56, Shaun Joseph 32; Santokh Singh 3-46, Karthikeya KP 5-47) lost to **Vultures CC: 240/6 in 30 overs** (Nischal D 77, Karthikeya 62; Shreevathsa Acharya 2-23, Rohan N 2-19) via VJD method.

Swastic Union (2): 309/9 in 50 overs (Vijaya Raj 36, Vishal Onat 26, Aneeshwar Gautam 30, Hardik Raj 55, Sujay S 74, Manvanth Kumar 28, Mohsin Khan 27; Maribasava Gowda 2-47, Karna Vamshi 2-61, Shivakumar BU 2-49, Pranav Bhatia 2-54) bt **Rajajinagar Cricketers: 74 all out in 18.5 overs** (Manvanth 4-36, Sathwik Sairaj 2-20, Pranav NV 3-8).

John stars for Nationals FC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kangbi John netted a double to power Nationals FC to a 2-1 win over JP Sports FC in a BDFA 'C' Division League football match in Bengaluru on Monday. In another match, Young Dynamos FC eased to a 7-0 win over Devanahalli FC.

Results: Gp 4: Nationals 2 (John 16, 51) bt JP Sports 1 (Bheema N 14). **Gp 6:** Indian Knights 1 (Daniel D 28) drew with Sporting Youths 1 (Ranjith 57); Shining Star 3 (Vignesh V 2, 5, Kishan HS 19) bt ITC 0. **Gp 7:** Young Dynamos FC 7 (M Mohan Raj 6, 43; Ranjith Selvaraj 15, 25; Kaurav Rithvik 27, Mano Raja 30, Krishna Waghela 47) bt Devanahalli 0; Bangalore Blues bt Royals (w/o); RBI 6 (Mark Adren 6, 33, Emmanuel J 10, Joshua Xavier 14, Roal Emendis 20, 42) bt Chinnappa Garden 0. **Teams in knockout: Gp 1:** Goutham; **Gp 2:** Jai Bharath Nagar; **Gp 3:** Rovers; **Gp 4:** Konkan; **Gp 5:** East West; **Gp 6:** Freedom; **Gp 7:** Young Dynamos; **Gp 8:** Rangers.

ROUND-UP

Misra emerges champ: Bengaluru's Akashat Misra emerged champion in the Senior Max class, as the third and final round of the karting competition concluded in Bengaluru. Misra, who was third in Sprint Race 1, recovered well to win the second race and finished the three-round Cup with 85 points. Aarav Sureka from Mumbai won the Micro Max category ahead of Bengaluru's Zidaan Anees.

Winners (K'taka only): Senior Max: Sprint Race 1: 1. Ishaan Madesh (B'luru), 3. Akshat Misra (B'luru). **Race 2:** 1. Akshat, 3. Shatveer Shetty (B'luru). **Champion:** Akshat. **Mini Max: Race 1:** 3. Jishnu Seralathan (B'luru). **Micro Max: Race 1:** 1. Zidaan Anees (B'luru); **Race 2:** 1. Zidaan. India Karting Academy Trophy: **Heat:** 1. Rishik Rohit Reddy (B'luru). **Final:** 3. Syed Luqman (B'luru).

Dharshan shines: Dharshan scored five goals as Karnataka Forest Department (KDF) thumped Coorg Blues HC 15-1 in the KSHA Super Division Hockey League Championship in Bengaluru on Monday. Arjun Reddy netted four goals.

Results: KDF: 15 (Mithun Bijwad 1, 45, Dharshan 3, 10, 24, 34, 49, Surya 18, Syed Basha M 22, 27, 41, Arjun Reddy 33, 36, 38, 40) bt Coorg Blues: 1 (Nithin 28); 5 'C' SC 2 (Amit 22, Pankaj Sharma 50) bt DPS 1 (Sibin Balakrishna 8).

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